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TASS: REAGAN REJECTS KENNEDY-HATFIELD RESOLUTION

LD161738 Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar, TASS -- President of the United States Ronald Reagan, speaking in Nashville, Tennessee, rejected the resolution that Senators Edward Kennedy and Mark Hatfield submitted to the U.S. Congress, the resolution urging the USA and the USSR to conclude an agreement on freezing the production, tests and deployment of nuclear weapons. He described this sweeping proposal of the senators as being "not good enough" and the President asserted that this will ensure great advantage for the Soviet Union, thus denying the generally-known fact that there exists the strategic nuclear balance between the USA and the USSR which is recognized also by U.S. military specialists.

Just as in a number of previous speeches, Reagan declared again for further militarization of the United States. He described the building of the military muscle as his duty as President.

In this connection the television company ABC points out that the President launched a counterattack against the movement demanding the freezing of nuclear arsenals, the movement that is mounting in the United States and abroad.... White House advisers are much concerned over the fact that in the light of the growing antinuclear movement he is exposed as a warmonger again.

As is known, the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution had been earlier rejected by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig. He asserted that if the resolution were adopted it would undermine the United States' national defence.

Thus the leadership of the U.S. administration shows again its disregard for the opinion of a considerable number of Americans who declare in favour of curbing the nuclear arms race. Support for the Kennedy-Hatfield resolution was already expressed by more than 140 congressmen, over 80 public organizations, municipal councils and legislative assemblies of states, as well as a great number of U.S. politicians, public figures and businessmen, among them former United States Ambassadors in the USSR Averell Harriman and George Kennan, former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency Paul Warnke, president of the National Council of Churches Armstrong and others.

According to the information of the organization National Campaign for Freezing Nuclear Armaments, the movement under this slogan already spread to 43 states of the USA. In a number of them the call for a moratorium on nuclear weapons was approved by the states' legislative assemblies.

Despite the fact that the Pentagon is planning to deploy and use chemical weapons first of all in Western Europe, the United States, as the hearings showed, did not even think of holding consultations concerning its dangerous plans with NATO partners. As Richard Perle, assistant defence secretary, stated, Washington reserves the right to make decisions on that score independently.

The administration-elaborated plans have given rise to serious concern in U.S. Congress. A group of senators from both parties, among them Edward Kennedy, Gary Hart, William Proxmire, Lowell Weicker, Paul Tsongas, and Nancy Kassembaum, have sent a letter to John Tower, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, urging him and the other members of the committee to vote against appropriations for the production of binary toxic agents. The senators also stated an intention to submit an appropriate bill to Congress for consideration.

Their letter says that President Reagan has notified Congress of the administration's intention to resume the production of deadly chemical armaments while the Department of Defence has already asked for those purposes multimillion appropriations. The senators stated that they are against that decision, being of the opinion that the creation of such weapons will not strengthen U.S. national security.

UN SECRETARY GENERAL LAUDS BREZHNEV PROPOSAL

LD162156 Moscow TASS in English 1940 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] New York, 16 Mar, TASS -- On behalf of the United Nations Secretary General, his spokesmen made the following statement on today's important announcement by Leonid Brezhnev: Mister Brezhnev's pledge of a Soviet moratorium would constitute a significant contribution to progress towards the solution of the grave problem inherent in the concentration of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

The UN secretary-general is seriously concerned over the extremely dangerous and wasteful arms race, particularly the nuclear arms race. He follows with keen interest the bilateral negotiation on the limitation of medium-range nuclear missiles by the USSR and the United States and welcomes every new initiative enhancing the possibility of meaningful agreement.

BOGACHEV COMMENTS ON USSR ARMS MORATORIUM

LD161422 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 16 Mar 82

["Two Approaches to International Security" -- TASS headline; by TASS military analyst Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Moscow 16 Mar, TASS -- The leaders of the two great powers, the United States and the Soviet Union, made almost simultaneously important statements on the problems of nuclear arms reductions, which attracted the close attention of the world public.

On March 15, President Reagan, making a tour of the U.S. southern states, said in the city of Nashville that he was categorically against the proposal of 140 American congressmen and senators as regards the conclusion of a Soviet-American agreement on freezing the production, tests and deployment of nuclear weapons.

On March 16 Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, addressing the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions, stated that the Soviet leadership had taken the decision to unilaterally introduce a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range nuclear weapons in the European USSR.

"We are freezing qualitatively and quanitiatively such arms already deployed here, and halting the replacement of the old missiles known as 'SS-4' and 'SS-5' with the newer ones, 'SS-20'," Leonid Brezhnev said.

Ronald Reagan stated in Nashville that he as President would never permit an agreement on freezing the nuclear potentials. Leonid Brezhnev announced that the Soviet Union intends as early as this year, unless the international situation deteriorates anew, to reduce on its own initiative a certain quantity of its medium-range missiles.

Leonid Brezhnev expressed the hope that the Western countries would be able to respond to the goodwill displayed by the Soviet Union with constructive steps in the spirit of good will. He proposed, in particular, that the United States and the USSR even before the resumption of the talks on the limitation and reduction of strategic nuclear weapons should assume the reciprocal obligation not to open a new channel of the arms race and refrain from deploying long-range sea- and ground-based cruise missiles.

Ronald Reagan declared that a freeze was not a good measure because it did not go sufficiently far.

What road is then acceptable to the U.S. administration?

There are three possible nuclear arms policies, namely, the reduction of nuclear arms, a freeze on them and, lastly, the continuation of the arms race.

By rejecting the SALT 2 treaty, which provides for a considerable reduction in strategic arms, and by sweeping aside the proposals of American congressmen and senators on freezing the nuclear arsenals, Washington has made it quite clear that only the third course, the continuation of the arms race so as to upset the existing balance of forces and to ensure U.S. military superiority, is acceptable to it.

The Soviet Union has taken a new step forcefully demonstrating its will for peace and its conviction of the possibility of a mutually acceptable nuclear arms agreement. Leonid Brezhnev, however, made a perfectly clear warning that the USSR would not allow the creation of additional threats to the Soviet Union or its allies by the United States.

The deployment of hundreds of new American missiles in Europe would force the USSR to take such measures in retaliation that would put the other side, including the United States itself, its own territory into a similar situation.

Washington should not overlook this.

COMMENTARY ON BREZHNEV ARMS FREEZE PROPOSAL

LD170240 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] We follow with a commentary by Vladislav Kozyakov of our staff on the new peace proposals advanced by the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, in his address to the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions. The new initiatives advanced by President Brezhnev at the Trade Union Congress in Moscow are aimed at preserving world peace and facilitating agreement with the United States and other countries on measures to be taken to halt the arms race that poses a grave threat to the existence of the human race. The Soviet leadership has once again shown an example of goodwill. It took a decision on freezing unilaterally medium-range nuclear missiles in the western part of the Soviet Union by imposing a moratorium on the replacement of the old missiles known as SS-4's and SS-5's by newer SS-20 missiles. Already this year, unless there is a new aggravation of international tension, the Soviet Union will reduce a certain number of its medium-range nuclear missiles on its own initiative. At the same time the Soviet leadership called on the U.S. administration not to put up obstacles to strategic arms limitation talks and to get down to them as soon as possible. Pending the resumption of the talks it proposed that the two sides should undertake not to open up a new arms build-up channel by deploying long-range sea- and ground-based cruise missiles.

Advancing these initiatives the Soviet leader called attention to the fact that the international situation requires maximum restraint in the military activities of the two opposing alliances of nations. He voiced the Soviet Union's readiness to agree on a mutual limitation of naval operations, confining missile submarine patrollings within agreed-upon limits and extending confidence-building measures to the seas and oceans, and in particular to areas crossed by busy shipping lanes.

The new Soviet initiatives are in the interests of all nations. They are a manifestation of a reasonable and responsible approach to problems that concern all of mankind. The Soviet leadership believes that the development of new types of arms can make a nuclear disarmament agreement impossible to reach unless action is taken now to check the dangerous build-up of arms. Understanding of the situation is growing throughout the world, and in the United States as well. Indication of this is the public movement underway in the United States for holding Soviet-American talks at once on freezing nuclear arsenals. Resolutions demanding such talks have been tabled by nearly 140 members of Congress and adopted by the several state legislatures and approved by the citizens of hundreds of American cities.

Speaking on Monday in Nashville, Tennessee, President Reagan rejected these demands of the American people. Such a negative approach to the proposals for nuclear disarmament, widely supported throughout the country, reflect the American administration's desire to carry on with its efforts to reach nuclear supremacy. Washington's plans are adventuristic if not insane, because obviously by abandoning the SALT talks and developing one arms system after another, it is paving the way for a nuclear catastrophe, thereby posing a threat to all people on Earth.

Advancing the new proposals, the Soviet leader considered it his duty to give a warning that upgraded American missiles, if they were to be deployed in Western Europe, would give rise to a new strategic situation in the world. They would pose an additional threat to the Soviet Union and its allies. The Soviet Union would be forced to take appropriate action in response. The international situation now is such that a meaningful approach to the problems of curbing the arms race and preventing another world war is of paramount and unprecedented importance.

The Soviet Union has indeed adopted such an approach and decided to unilaterally freeze and reduce its medium-range nuclear arms to facilitate agreement with the United States. President Brezhnev emphasized that the Soviet leadership was expecting its Western partners at the talks to take constructive steps in a spirit of goodwill in response to the new Soviet initiative.

ZA RUBEZHOM ON USSR DISARMAMENT EFFORTS

PM150913 Moscow ZA RUBESHOM in Russian No 10 Signed to Press 4 March 82 p 1

[Editorial: "The Right to Live in Peace"]

[Text] The unity of the socialist countries and the cohesion of all peace-loving forces is a sine qua non for overcoming confrontation, curbing the arms race and rebuffing the forces of militarism and war. This is the view of the Soviet Union and Poland and it is shared by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, who held Soviet-Polish talks in the Kremlin in the course of the official visit to our country by a Polish party and state delegation and reaffirmed the indestructibility of the fraternal alliance, friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

Global Importance

The visit demonstrated that the USSR and Poland will do their utmost to develop bilateral cooperation and to solve the key task of modern times -- to save the world from war. It is now clearer than ever that imperialism particularly U.S. imperialism, sees the socialist community's cohesion and the increase in its prestige and its purposeful and consistent struggle for international security as the main obstacle to its adventurist schemes aimed at altering the existing correlation of forces in the world. The fraternal countries' primary objective is therefore the defense of socialist gains. As L.I. Brezhnev said in his Kremlin speech: "...Let no one count on socialism not defending itself. It will, and with the utmost vigor."

With equal vigor the USSR and the other socialist countries will continue to follow the path they have chosen once and for all of striving for peace, for mankind's liberation from the threat of nuclear destruction and for the practical solution of urgent problems, especially the disarmament problem. The threat to peace today is indeed great. L.I. Brezhnev's reply to a letter from an Australian organization calling for international cooperation and disarmament, a reply which was to have wide repercussions, spells out the objective reality of our time -- the intimate interrelationship and interdependence of developments in different parts of the world.

The nuclear age leads us to the inexorable and uncompromising conclusion that attempts to confine a nuclear war within a framework delineated in the offices of the Pentagon and to "limit" it to certain degrees of latitude and longitude are utter folly. The inevitability of a nuclear conflict developing into a worldwide conflict if it were to break out in the Old World must be beyond all doubt. The achievement of a speedy and constructive outcome at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva on medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe is therefore of global importance. The resumption of the Soviet-U.S. talks on limiting and reducing strategic nuclear arms must also be expedited, and the talks on banning chemical weapons broken off by the United States must be resumed.

L.I. Brezhnev's reply to the Australian members of the peace movement was an authoritative reaffirmation of the Soviet stance on disarmament questions -- a stance which is of vital importance to the future of mankind. It is very important that this stance has met with understanding in all sorts of countries.

An increasing number of people on every continent is now becoming aware of the real nature of the processes taking place in the world. The peoples' alarm is increasing as the "cockiness" of a Washington administration which is laying a "theoretical" foundation for the possibility of unleashing a "limited" nuclear war and declaring various parts of the world thousands of kilometers from the United States as the sphere of its "vital interests" asserts itself increasingly unceremoniously. The peoples are opposing this course more and more actively.

An Unvarying Stance

The USSR's stance is unvarying and constructive -- our country is ready to examine without any prejudice whatever any proposal aimed at curbing the arms race and achieving genuine disarmament. We never dismiss out of hand the other side's initiatives, and we apply just one yardstick to them -- how far they serve the cause of preventing war and accord with the principle of equality and identical security. In his speech at the dinner in honor of the Polish party and state delegation Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said: "We are for continuing and enriching the East-West dialogue, for sweeping aside the welter of accusations and counteraccusations and buckling down to the practical solution of urgent problems, especially the disarmament problem." If it were up to the Soviet Union there would be no nuclear weapons in the world, ever more sophisticated means of mass destruction would not be developed and no one would threaten man's supreme right -- the right to live in peace.

The USSR's approach to the disarmament problem is known to be unambiguous and is not subject to the political situation. Some 60 years ago, in the year the USSR was formed, our country set forth at the Genoa international conference the stand formulated by Lenin which remains the basis of the Soviet state's foreign policy course: disarmament is socialism's ideal. We are against the policy which maintains -- "if you want peace, prepare for war." We are against the concept of the Pentagon's present chief -- "the possibility of preserving peace is provided only by the military advantage that the United States possessed in the fifties." The Soviet Union will not allow the realization of the goal advanced by Reagan in his election platform when he was still a presidential candidate -- to achieve military superiority over the USSR." Our country draws this conclusion: The Pentagon's unprecedented military budget of $263 billion is the material base of preparation for war. The development and introduction into production of qualitatively new types of mass-destruction weapons, including neutron and chemical weapons, by the United States also constitutes such a base, as L.I. Brezhenv declared in his message to the Japanese writers who authored the appeal against nuclear war.

"Washington is reckoning on upsetting the military-strategic equilibrium which the socialist countries have achieved with the capitalist world. Washington's policy -- a policy of diktat, fist law in international relations and an unrestrained arms race -- is mortally dangerous. V.I. Lenin once said: "...It matters to us whether we have dealings with those representatives of the bourgeois camp who are drawn to a military solution of a question or with those representatives of the bourgeois camp who are drawn to pacifism...." The inclination for "a military solution of a question," as demonstrated by the U.S. administration, scares many of Washington's allies. The words of the FRG chancellor, who voiced a sharply adverse attitude toward Washington's intention to regard Europe as a "theater of military operations," may serve as an example.

Reason and Optimism

The adventurism of the American leadership and its intention to virtually change the results of World War II elicit a broad protest in Europe. W. Jaruzelski has said, "He who wishes today to undermine the peaceful order in Europe insults the memory of the dead and rejects the lessons of history." Millions of Europeans are aware that the program being pushed through by the Pentagon to saturate West European countries with new American nuclear missile weapons accords with the interests of the U.S. military-industrial complex above all. The military monopolies wish to make the maximum profit even at the cost of the threat of a nuclear conflagration on European soil.

But any hopes of shaking the equilibrium of the two sides' forces, including in Europe, are doomed to fail. The Soviet state's stand is one of reason and optimism. Our country believes in the reality and possibility of preventing nuclear catastrophe. It urges the peoples to step up the struggle for the reliable security of the present and future generations and for genuine progress on the path of disarmament. "And we want everyone to understand," Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said during the Polish party and state delegation's visit to the USSR, "that in the nuclear age peace is the paramount condition for the continuation of life on Earth."

SENATE OPPOSITION TO U.S. CHEMICAL PROGRAM NOTED

LD162208 Moscow TASS in English 2043 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar, TASS -- Hearings on the subject of U.S. further preparation for the conduct of chemical war were held on Monday at the Strategic and Theater Nuclear Forces Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Mr. Wagner, assistant defence secretary on atomic energy matters, when setting out a program worked out in this field by the Reagan adminstration, emphasized that the main elements of the program are the modernisation of the chemical weapons' stocks already existing in the USA and the creation of a new kind of them -- binary toxic agents. As much as 104 million dollars have been asked for the creation of this new type of chemical weapons in the budget for the 1983 financial year alone, and the entire program intended for a five-year period will cost the U.S. taxpayers a total of approximately 1,000 million dollars. According to Mr. Wagner, the Pentagon intends to create a powerful technological basis to replenish the arsenals of chemical armaments and to work out an appropriate doctrine and to step up the training of troops for the conduct of military operations with the use of chemical armaments.

'FRIENDSHIP-82' EXERCISES CONTINUE IN POLAND

LD162118 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1550 GMT 16 Mar 82

["Fraternal Meetings of Servicemen" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Warsaw, 16 Mar (TASS) -- As correspondents of the PAP news agency report, scheduled strategic tactical exercises of the allied armies -- codenamed Friendship-82 -- are continuing in northwest People's Poland. Intensive battle training is underway for units and subunits of the Soviet Army, the National People's Army of the GDR and the Polish People's Army.

In the breaks between the training battles, the comrades-in-arms carry out numerous activities in exchanging training experiences in educating the personnel and in having friendly meetings. These meetings are noted for their special sincerity, warmth and frankness. Servicemen-activists of the Komsomol's army organizations, the Free German Youth Union and the Socialist Polish Youth Union tell each other how they are fighting to get high marks in combat and political training, strengthening troop discipline and cohesion among troop collectives. They exchange badges, albums and souvenirs.

The meetings with World War II veterans are especially interesting. The tales told by the participants in the triumphant battles with the Hitlerite invaders on Polish territory are listened to with great attention. It was precisely in these regions in 1945 that the soldiers of the Polish People's Army fought shoulder-to-shoulder with the servicemen of the Soviet Army in bloody battles for the freedom and independence of Poland and the reunification of its age-old lands.

The young servicemen of the allied armies are today continuing the traditions of comradeship-in-arms at the front. A tank division of the Polish People's Army proudly bears the name of Heroes of the Soviet army. In the National People's Army of the GDR, the Karol Sverchevskiy unit is noted for its high degree of combat readiness. On the banners of units of the Soviet Army are the names "Warsaw," "Gdansk," "Bydgoszcz" and others which were won in battles for the liberation of Polish cities. These names are a constant reminder of the origins and the indissolubility of the combat fraternity of the armies and of the unity of their objectives and tasks.

The exercises are continuing. Ahead are new tests of battle maturity and new meetings of the brothers-in-arms.

PRAVDA REVIEW ON FINLAND, C. AMERICA, SOMALIA

PM161407 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 4

[Vitaliy Korionov "International Review"]

[Text] Delivering the report at the Ninth Russian Communist Party (Bolsheviks) Congress 62 years ago, in March 1920, V.I. Lenin said: "We know that every month gives us a huge increase in strength and will give more. Therefore we now stand stronger in the international respect than ever before.... We have been waging the war for peace with execptional energy. This war is producing magnificent results. We have manifested ourselves best of all in this field of struggle...."

The war for peace which our country began with the proclamation of Lenin's decree on peace is continuing. Its significance for mankind's destiny is increasing particularly now that imperialism's adventurist circles are stepping up the arms race and exacerbating the international situation.

In the Name of Cooperation

Waging a purposeful struggle against the threat of a new war, the CPSU and the Soviet state are guided both by the desire to ensure peaceful conditions for our people to resolve the tremendous complex tasks of communist building and by sincere concern for the vital interests of all the planet's peoples. The misanthropic stand expounded in the formula "there are more important things than peace" is alien to us. The "philosophy" expressed in these words by one of the leaders of the present American administration is determined by profound hostility toward the cause of progress and the peoples' freedom. It is founded on the adventurist desire to "roll back" socialism, crush national liberation movements and restore imperialism's irretrievably lost supremacy. Such a policy inevitably deforms normal relations among countries and gives rise to conflict situations fraught with dangerous international crises.

The stand of the CPSU and the Soviet Government is fundamentally opposed to it. Being a state built on the basis of the friendship and fraternity of many nations and ethnic groups, the USSR seeks peace, mutual understanding and cooperation with all countries.

The USSR resolutely condemns the dangerous policy being pursued by the United States and the NATO bloc of whipping up the arms race and their attempts to upset the established military equilibrium to the detriment of the interests of European and international security. The USSR advocates seeking a solution to problems round the negotiating table -- a solution which would not diminish anyone's security but would lower the level of military confrontation.

This policy, which enjoys the support of the vast majority of mankind and meets with the mutual understanding of realistically minded politicians in nonsocialist countries, has a beneficial effect on the international situation and introduces stability into the development of relations among countries. This was graphically demonstrated once again by the results of the Soviet-Finnish talks held last week during the business visit of President Mauno Koivisto of the Republic of Finland to our country.

"Soviet-Finnish relations," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his speech at the dinner in honor of the exalted guest, "are frequently called a good example of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. This is undoubtedly correct. I would only add that they are also an example of good, correctly set up relations between a major power and its comparitively small neighbor.

"If the good principles on which the relations between us are based were applied more widely in the world, there would probably be considerably fewer hotbeds of tension and conflicts."

The talks in Moscow showed convincingly that the relations currently existing between the USSR and Finland represent a weighty constructive factor in European politics. Life attests that the line defined by the 1948 Soviet-Finnish treaty and confirmed in the joint documents adopted in subsequent years accords with both countries' long-term interests and serves the cause of easing international tension.

Experience of the treaty's functioning has convincingly proved its historic value and lasting significance for good-neighborly mutual relations between the Finnish and Soviet peoples. This document is a strong foundation for the development of all-around cooperation between the two countries. It reliably guards Soviet-Finnish relations against the fluctuations of the international situation. The long-term program for the development of mutually advantageous economic cooperation between Finland and the USSR is also a direct result of it. The participants in the talks stated their immutable resolve to protect and develop relations of good-neighborliness in the future.

During the talks note was taken of the coincidence of the two countries' stands on questions relating to the preservation of peace and the further development of the detente process and to ending the arms race, removing the existing tension from international relations and developing equitable cooperation among states. Finland is not neutral on such issues. It speaks against war, and it is heeded with respect in the world arena.

Under conditions where opponents of international cooperation are undermining the edifice of European peace and trying to emasculate the content of the Final Act and prevent the constructive conclusion of the Madrid meeting, great significance attaches to the concern expressed during the Moscow talks for the importance of continuing the process initiated by the all-European conference in Helsinki, as well as for concluding the Madrid meeting with substantial positive results, including the decision to convene a conference on measures to strengthen confidence and security and to carry out disarmament in Europe.

Naturally, the talks participants could not fail to discuss questions relating to the situation in northern Europe. Here they pointed to the topicality of Finland's well-known proposal to create a nuclear-free zone there. The Finnish side pointed out that the Soviet Union's constructive stand is of great significance for its practical realization.

The Soviet-Finnish summit talks confirmed that there is good potential for the further fruitful development of cooperation between the USSR and Finland.

Gambling on Aggravation

The situation now taking shape in the Central American region is a further example of how the U.S. administration's reckless course is creating dangerous seats of tension.

In an attempt to justify this course, the Washington political kitchen is unceasingly concocting successive fabrications of increasing absurdity. First it intimidated Latin Americans with the "Cuba threat," later it began to frighten them with the "Nicaraguan peril." Recently it was asserted that a danger stemming from those states was threatening the junta's regime in El Salvador, then talk began of a threat to Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica and now it is being hinted that there is a danger to...Mexico.

Addressing a U.S. congressional subcommittee recently, U.S. Secretary of State Haig announced the "presence" in Nicaragua of military advisers not only from Cuba but the GDR, the DPRK, Bulgaria and even the PLO. Furthermore, he stated that in Nicaragua that people of Aryan race have been discovered who do not speak Spanish, clearly they are Russians" (!)

There is no need to refute such inventions -- their groundlessness is clear to everyone. But something else is obvious, too: This hysterical campaign is pursuing a quite definite aim: that of creating the kind of political climate which would facilitate the implementation of new U.S. adventures in this region.

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes: "Washington refuses to rule out the possibility of U.S. military intervention in Central America or the Caribbean." As has already been reported, President Reagan has approved a CIA-formulated plan for secret operations against Nicaragua including sending specially trained armed detachments (including Green Berets) to that country. As the newspapers point out, the CIA has allocated $19 million for the implementation of this plan. It is characteristic that the White House press secretary refused to refute these U.S. press reports and stated: "We do not comment on affairs relating to the detente sphere."

And the military is not concealing its plans either. Adm T. Hayward, U.S. Navy chief of staff, for example, recently said that the military leaders are examining "possible options" for the broad use of the Navy and the Marines in Central America and in the Caribbean basin.

The confusion campaign is being stepped up. Naval maneuvers codenamed Safe Pass-82, in which 30 ships from 6 countries, 80 aircraft and 10,000 servicemen are taking part, have begun in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico. These are the biggest NATO military maneuvers to be held under the Pentagon's aegis in this region. They will be followed by the Ocean Venture-82 maneuvers, which will culminate in the landing of Marines on the Cuban territory at Guantanamo usurped by the United States. The press reports Washington's efforts to expand its network of military bases in a number of countries of Latin America located in the vicinity of the Caribbean.

We are faced with that same policy of force of one state's imposing its will on another, of an attempt to do everything to prevent peoples from building their life as they deem necessary.

The tragedy of El Salvador is a glaring testimony to the diasters which befall the peoples as a result of Washington's course toward preserving at any price the dictatorial regimes which are obediently following the lead of imperialist policy.

It is only natural that such a policy is resolutely rebuffed by the peoples. The countries, which follow a line of good-neighborliness and peaceful cooperation, are advocating the creation of an atmosphere of detente in the Caribbean region. It was precisely peace-loving and constructive proposals of this kind that the Government of Nicaragua put forward recently. Mexican President Lopez Portillo advocated the elaboration of a system of nonaggression pacts between Nicaragua and the United States and between Nicaragua and its neighboring countries -- pacts which would ensure peace in Central America. This initiative was resolutely supported by the Government of Cuba.

It is obvious that the realization of these aspirations to lessen tension in Central America would benefit the cause of international peace, too. The Soviet Union is in favour of such a course of events.

However, Washington's attitude to Mexico's proposal is different. According to the American press, the U.S. administration received the Mexican proposal "without any particular enthusiasm." "Official representatives of the Reagan administration," the New York TIMES said, "reacted evasively, stating that they had to study this plan."

Meanwhile, articles have started appearing in the American press designed, in an underhand way, to discredit Mexico's position. For instance, columnist J. Draft, clearly displeased that L. Portillo, "in spite of cajoling, from J. Carter and R. Reagan, continues to take steps to support the weaker countries of the region," declared that Mexico cannot play an impartial role in Central America. Moreover, the columnist very significantly hinted: "If the situation in Mexico does not improve, then this may pose certain problems for the United States." Washington's whipping up of tension in the Central American region requires that the peoples display vigilance. The WPC proposed that the week of 23-30 March be declared a week of solidarity with the people of Central America who are opposed to U.S. military intervention in the countries of that region and who are fighting for their national independence and self-determination. The WPC has put forward the slogan "No to U.S. military intervention in the countries of Central America."

Paying Respects

The president of Somalia, S. Barre, recently visited Washington. The visitor had meetings with R. Reagan, A. Haig and C. Weinberger. The Somali side tried to present this trip as having a certain humanitarian purpose. However, statements by representatives of the American administration and in the press make it quite clear that Washington saw these meetings as yet another possibility of increasing Somali dependence on the United States.

The American capital made no secret of the fact that the point of departure of present American-Somali relations is the military agreement signed by the two sides in August 1980. This agreement opened the way for the Pentagon to use military bases in Somalia. The base at Berbera has already been used by American Rapid Deployment Forces during military exercises. At the present time, landing strips are being extended there to take American aircraft and preparations are under way for enlarging the port. The Pentagon's top brass is rubbing its hands, for after the ports and bases here have been modernized, "large ships" from the U.S. 7th fleet will be able to "put in regularly" and they could be used by "Near East military forces."

According to figures published in the press, U.S. military aid to Somalia over the past 3 years has amounted to $60 million. A representative of the Washington administration announced recently that Somalia has become the third largest recipient of American aid in Africa. Yet this "aid" has brought the Somali people nothing but misfortune. As it is, 40 percent of Somalia's meagre budget is already used for military purposes. The aggressive war against Ethiopia has further sapped the country's sickly economy. The major demonstrations against the present regime that shook the country last month, and in which military units took part, reflected the population's attitude toward the policies of the present government.

Going to pay his respects to Uncle Sam, the Somali president thought that he would receive the latest handout. But in fact, all he obtained were new fetters of dependence.

The current international situation is a complex and contradictory one. More than ever before the ability to see clearly the star that will guide us into the future is needed. The USSR and the other countries of the socialist community not only see this aim -- that is, the strengthening of peace -- they know the path that leads to its achievement. The strength of our policy of peace lies in the fact that it is based on the objective processes of the development of modern society, on a realistic correlation of forces on this planet and on support for all peace-loving states and peoples. This guarantees it new successes in the pursuit of a solution to the urgent task facing mankind.

MATERIALS ON USTINOV'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA

Speech in Bombay

LD161116 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 16 Mar, TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Defence Minister of the USSR, Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, now on an official visit here at the invitation of India's Government, and his party left today for a tour of the country. Dmitriy Ustinov today came to Bombay where he visited a naval base of the Western Naval Command and other structures.

The commander of the navy of India's Western Zone, Vice-Admiral M.P. Awati gave a luncheon in honour of the distinguished Soviet guest. The sides exchanged toasts at the luncheon.

Welcoming Marshal Ustinov, M.P. Awati noted the great significance of the Soviet-Indian Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, dated 1971. The treaty, he said, is a reliable guarantee of peace and stability in Asia. Meanwhile, Awati said, the Indian Armed Forces highly appreciate the Indian-Soviet cooperation in modernising the naval forces of Indian.

The Defence Minister of the USSR Dmitriy Ustinov made a reply speech. He warmly thanked the personnel of the Western Naval Command for the cordial reception accorded to the Soviet delegation. We got acquainted with interest with the training and life of Indian naval seamen, he said. We again had an opportunity to become convinced that India's naval forces had a powerful combat materiel and well-trained personnel. I should like to express profound satisfaction with the high appraisal which was given today to the Soviet-Indian cooperation in modernising India's naval forces. We are ready to continue developing and strengthening this cooperation, as an important component part of the whole complex of friendly Soviet-Indian relations. The Soviet Union wants to see India a strong and powerful state which, if required, could firmly stand up for itself.

We understand full well India's concern over the growing tension on its frontiers, Marshal Ustinov said. In this connection one cannot but mention the threat to peace which comes from growing militarisation of the Indian Ocean area. That threat comes from those who announce areas located thousands of miles from their shores as "a sphere of their vital interests." Those forces are making attempts to prevent convocation of an international conference on the Indian Ocean. It is from those forces that a real threat to stability in this vast area of the planet comes.

As to the Soviet Union, we consider the Indian Ocean as a sphere of the vital interests of the states located on its shores, but not of any other states. The Soviet Union firmly backs the proposals on turning this region into a peace zone. Friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and India, including in the sphere of defence, are not directed against third countries. But as long as forces of militarism and expansion exist on earth, the peace-loving peoples should remain vigilant and strengthen their might to defend their freedom and independence.

Talk With Vice-President

LD161544 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 16 Mar, TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Defence Minister of the USSR, returned from Bombay to New Delhi today. Also today, he had a meeting with Indian Vice-President Mohammad Hidayatullah. During the friendly conversation, they discussed issues of mutual interest. The great importance of further enhancing all-round Soviet-Indian cooperation and its significance for strengthening the cause of peace in Asia and the entire world was stressed.

Remarks at Bangalore Dinner

LD171040 Moscow TASS in English 1028 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] New Delhi, 17 Mar, TASS -- Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of defence of the USSR, who is on an official visit here at the invitation of the Indian Government, has left by air for a tour of the country. In the city of Agra the high visitor and his party saw the remarkable monuments of Indian medieval architecture, Taj Mahal and the Red Fort. On the same day Dmitry Ustinov arrived in Bangalore (Karnataka State). The Marshal of the Soviet Union paid a visit to the state-owned aircraft-building corporation Khal. Heartfelt meetings with workers and specialists of India's major defence plant took place there. P.K. Kapur, president of the corporation, gave a dinner in honour of the high Soviet visitor. Speaking at the dinner party, he stressed the vast importance of the aid given by the Soviet Union in the further development of India's public sector for the sake of implementing the task formulated by the government and the people -- namely, the achievement of the country's economic self-sufficiency and the strengthening of India's defences in the complex conditions of the international situation on the South-Asian subcontinent and in the Indian Ocean region. We, he said, also think highly of the role of Soviet-Indian cooperation in the exploration of outer space. The Indian satellites launched with the help of Soviet specialists and technicians are in orbit, giving India a great help in the further development of its science and agriculture and in the more rational utilization of its natural resources.

In his reply speech Dmitriy Ustinov said: Our visit to your plant convinced us of the high potential of the Indian national industry and the great creative potentialities of the Indian people. Your plant also demonstrates the great importance the state sector of the Indian national economy has for increasing India's might. It is a pleasure for us, Soviet people, to know that we have also made a contribution to its development. This is evidenced by the numerous projects of Soviet-Indian cooperation. We are sincerely glad to see that the industry of friendly India has now gained strength and can solve the tasks of strengthening its economic independence and defence capacity. The economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and India is developing on a long-term planned basis. It is characterized by dynamism and a large scale. There is also growing cooperation between the two countries in the field of defence. Our aims, those of strengthening the traditional Soviet-Indian friendship, ensuring world peace and strengthening international security, also remain unchanged.

The new, far-reaching initiatives put forward by Leonid Brezhnev at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade unions, are fresh evidence of the tireless, consistent struggle of the Soviet Union for peace on earth and for the happiness of the peoples.

Our stay in your beautiful green city which combines the dimensions of a big industrial and scientific centre, with the comfort of parks and the originality of the monuments of a hoary past, gave us real pleasure, Dmitriy Ustinov said. In your city one feels especially keenly the pulse beat of new India, a country which by right is playing an important role in world affairs. We rejoice in the successes of India, our close and good neighbor and we wish new accomplishments to its industrious people. We are confident that relations between our two countries, resting on the solid foundations of the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation of 1971, will help this and serve the cause of peace and progress of mankind.

In his tour of the country Marshal Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, defence minister of the USSR, is accompanied by high-ranking officers of the armed forces of the Soviet Union and India as well as the USSR Ambassador to India, Yuliy Vorontsov.

SOVIET MEDIA REPORT AFGHAN PARTY CONFERENCE

Karmal Speech

PM161103 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Mar 82 p 4

[TASS report: "Defending Working People's Interests"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Mar -- The capital of Democratic Afghanistan has become the venue for a great historical event in the life of the PDPA and the entire Afghan people. For the first time since the April 1978 revolution the best representatives of the party have gathered for a PDPA national conference to define the party's general course and the strategy and tactics of the struggle for Afghanistan's revolutionary renewal.

This morning conference delegates representing the more than 60,000-strong vanguard of the Afghan working class and all working people assembled in the Afghan capital's largest auditorium -- the Kabul Polytechnical Institute. In all 841 delegates have been elected at district, provincial, regional, city and district party conferences. They include representatives of the working class, peasantry, intelligentsia, servicemen and all strata of the population and all the country's nations, ethnic groups and tribes.

The hall greeted the members of the Politburo and secretaries of the PDPA Central Commmittee with an ovation. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, delivered the inaugural speech to those assembled. He suggested honoring with a minute's silence the memory of the best sons and daughters of the freedom-loving Afghan people who have given their lives in the struggle for a happy future. Comrade B. Karmal told the delegates that the conference had received numerous greetings messages from fraternal revolutionary parties. Then he read out the text of the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the participants in the PDPA national conference. The conference was declared open. The delegates rose and sang the "Internationale" in a wave of enthusiasm.

After the conference's leading organs had been elected, its agenda was approved. The delegates are to discuss two questions: the PDPA draft action program and tasks to consolidate the party and strengthen its ties with the people, and additions and amendments to the PDPA rules. Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, delivered the PDPA Central Committee report on the first point on the agenda.

In the historically brief period since the April 1978 revolution, he said, profound changes have taken place in Afghanistan. The political and socioeconomic rule of the feudalists and big usurers has been eliminated. Land reform is being implemented in the interests of the basic mass of peasants and nomads. The state sector in industry and transport is being expanded and deepened. The party and government are working persistently to create an atmosphere of legality and respect for the rights and freedom of all citizens in the country. The people have already had occasion to be convinced that our policy is really aimed at resolving economic, social and ideological problems in their interests. A result of the work done in all spheres is the gradual establishment of new relations of respect, trust, cooperation and fraternity among all Afghanistan's national patriotic forces in their joint activity for the motherland's well-being. It is thus being confirmed in practice that the PDPA policy reflects our people's fundamental needs and aspirations.

Afghanistan's revolutionary turn-around from backwardness toward all-around progress, the speaker continued, has generated fury and frenzied resistance from imperialism and reaction. They are carrying out widespread interference in our internal affairs, embarking on the path of terror and violence, and are provoking fratricidal war and stopping at nothing to restore the power of the exploiters in Afghanistan and deprive its people of the right to happiness and progress. It is they who are to blame for the fact that many social and economic transformations are being implemented more slowly than planned. It is their fault that blood is still being shed and people are suffering.

This situation requires that the PDPA as the ruling revolutionary party display clarity in its objective and resolute actions and tremendous amount of organizational work. That is why we need a program of actions which will be the basis for the even closer rallying of the party's ranks and the mobilization of all forces to resolve the tasks of the national-democratic revolution and the defense of its gains.

The new policy document is also needed because the main strategic task of the PDPA's first program -- gaining political power -- has been fulfilled. The party now faces new tasks. Determining and formulating them and outlining specific paths for our advance -- that is the main objective of the national conference.

The preparation for the national conference was a serious test of what we have achieved in all spheres of social life and, of course, in the sphere of party building. It was shown yet again that our party is indeed the core of the new sociopolitical system. It has grown numerically and strengthened organizationally and rightly plays the part of the leading force of our society.

The PDPA ranks now number over 62,000 members and candidate members united in 1,656 primary party organizations.

Since the adoption of the current party rules, B. Karmal continued, considerable experience has been accumulated and new forms and methods of work have emerged. The structure of party organizations continues to be improved. Regional committees and in major cities district party committees have been created. Changes have taken place in party committees' functions and rights. Therefore, in our view, it is expedient to adopt a number of amendments and additions to the PDPA rules.

In approving the party's action program we are guided by a simple and clear goal -- making our people happy and our motherland prosperous. That is the gist of the April revolution and the PDPA's entire activity. The transition from profound backwardness to progress requires some time and conscious, planned efforts by the entire people under the leadership of their political vanguard -- the revolutionary party.

Our revolution sets itself democratic goals: destroying feudal vestiges, limiting large-scale ownership of land by landowners, allocating land to peasants and laborers with little or no land, boosting the national economy, improving the population's living standard, developing the culture of the Afghan ethnic groups and tribes, and profoundly and consistently democratizing public and political life. This revolution takes into account the national features of the peoples inhabiting Afghanistan and their profound religious feelings, historical and cultural traditions and spiritual values. We treat these traditions and values with respect and we are carefully preserving and developing all that is best and progressive created by previous generations.

I must stress once again that our revolution is the historical successor to the Afghan patriots' protracted struggle for a happy future.

This struggle intensified particularly under the influence of the fundamental changes throughout the world and in our region almost 65 years ago thanks to the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution and the subsequent change in the correlation of forces in the world arena in favor of the forces of peace and progress. It was precisely then that new trends emerged and developed rapidly and the forces of progress and freedom were strengthened in Afghanistan.

The creation of our party and its persistent heroic struggle supported by all national patriotic forces and subsequently leading to the victory of the April Revolution was a response to this.

The development of the national-democratic revolution after its victory, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee encountered widespread organized outside interference. As a result many projected tasks have not been resolved and the transformations have not been successfully completed.

It is important to stress that the April revolution is developing in a country where the majority of the population belong to the Islamic faith. Reaction in Afghanistan and beyond is doing everything possible to generate among believers hatred for the revolutionary authorities. That is why the party is making every effort to ensure that its lofty and noble ideals are understood correctly and profoundly by believing Muslims and primarily by the working people.

On the basis of an analysis of its activity, the party concludes that the problems facing the country and the revolution cannot be resolved simultaneously and immediately but only gradually. The development of the revolution must be an on-going, plan-governed development. At the same time we will tolerate no pauses in Afghanistan's revolutionary transformation. Marking time or the replacing revolutionary action by "revolutionary phraseology" will not be allowed. The party proceeds from an unswerving determination to improve the people's material situation, wipe out illiteracy, develop education, health care and culture and ensure stability and revolutionary legality and order everywhere in the country.

Another achievement of the April revolution is that it laid the foundations to a new political system which alongside the organs of state power also includes the National Fatherland Front -- the bulwark of the power of the working people in the DRA -- with all the mass public organizations which belong to it.

We are building a new Afghanistan in an atmosphere of undeclared war foisted on us by imperialism and reaction. That is why we attach priority significance to ensuring and further increasing our ability to defend the motherland and our revolutionary gains, reliably consolidate these gains and make them secure and resolutely, successfully cut short attempts by hostile forces to restore the domination of the exploiters.

The revolutionary people's power is the main political gain of the victorious April revolution. At the same time it is the main political instrument for further deepening and developing it and extending the economic, social and cultural transformations which are being carried out in the interests of the broad people's masses, above all the working people, and a reliable defense of our gains against encroachments by external and internal reaction.

In this connection the most important, priority task for the party and the revolutionary authorities, B. Karmal said, is to complete the routing of armed counterrevolution, establish and reliably consolidate revolutionary power locally and ensure stable civil peace in the country.

The concept of civil peace elaborated by our party means first and foremost ensuring normal, peaceful, calm conditions for the joint discussion and solution of the problems facing the country. This will provide scope for the implementation of a whole range of socioeconomic transformations outlined in the PDPA's action program. Our party took political power by the people's will and in their interests. This is what determines the nature and orientations of economic development.

Above all we must take into account the fact that various economic structures have objectively emerged and are functioning in the country and that at the present stage of the national democratic revolution this diversity persists. We will work persistently and patiently to make full use of the potential offered by all these structures in the interests of developing the country's productive forces for the benefit of all the people. The development of productive forces and the introduction of modern technology, education and culture will make it possible to gradually overcome this diversity. The state sector will play a leading role in this process.

Thanks to the preferential, planned enhancement of the role and significance of the state sector and of planning in the country's economy, all economic resources will be drawn into the common cause more fully and effectively. The party and the revolutionary authorities will adopt all necessary measures to ensure that the economic restructuring is not detrimental to the working people's interests, but takes place on the basis of improving their living and working conditions and their material and cultural level.

The party and the revolutionary authorities proclaim: We will not postpone to the indefinite future anything which can be done today in the people's interests.

Afghanistan's backwardness and lack of development are temporary in nature. Our country has great natural resources and sufficient good land, less than half of which is cultivated at present, and its people are industrious and talented. The party is confident that in the foreseeable future our motherland can and must become an economically developed state with diverse industry, strong, productive agriculture and a materially secure, literate and politically developed population.

Taking account of the specific features of the Afghan economy, the draft action program devotes particular attention to problems of agricultural development and improving the peasantry's situation. The party and people's power intend to consistently, persistently follow a line of democratic resolution of the agrarian question with the direct participation of working peasants and the enhancement of their role in this matter, which is vitally important for them.

Our plans for industrial development are also realistic in nature. On the basis of these plans we will be able to embark on the implementation of a broader economic program.

Our party's social policy helps ensure that the gains of the revolution serve all working people and all patriotic forces and help to rally them.

All classes, strata, ethnic groups and tribes will find in the draft action program a fitting expression of their vital interests and correct, concrete ways of ensuring their planned, gradual satisfaction.

Dwelling on certain questions of the PDPA's nationalities policy, B. Karmal said that the revolutionary authorities in the DRA, for the first time in the country's history, set the goal of bringing true material and spiritual progress to Afghanistan's entire population and ensuring full equality and equal opportunities for all-round development for all people and tribes.

Here the party and government will proceed on the basis of recognition of and respect for historical, religious and cultural traditions. The development of all that is best and most valuable in the cultural heritage of all ethnic groups and tribes is ensured and guaranteed.

The victory of the April revolution, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee went on to state, created all the necessary conditions for ensuring that the riches and assets of the country's own culture, science and art and those of the world become the property of the broad masses. To this end tremendous, purposeful efforts by the party and the public are required. Specific difficulties exist in Afghanistan in the sphere of ideological work arising from the social heterogeneity of society and the complexities of the national and tribal structure. Most of the population is illiterate or barely literate. These problems are made more complex as a result of the broad ideological aggression by imperialism and reaction against Afghanistan.

Enlightenment and educational work must promote the development of revolutionary views and the principles of the new morality and the new attitude to labor, the all-round dissemination of mass labor initiatives and the people's active participation in the defense of the revolution's gains.

The first successful steps have been taken in this direction, B. Karmal noted. Blows have been struck against the positions of feudal ideology and the vestiges of national disunity. The working people's level of awareness is growing before our eyes and their patriotic unity is strengthening. On the party's initiative a nationwide campaign to eliminate illiteracy has been launched.

The PDPA and the DRA Government, on the basis of the principles and goals of the April revolution, once again solemnly declare that all the rights and freedoms of Muslims and the patriotic clergy are guaranteed in the DRA.

But the revolutionary authorities will never tolerate attempts by the enemies of the revolution and the people to use religion to deflect Afghanistan from its chosen party.

The PDPA is the basis of the new revolutionary sociopolitical system in Afghanistan and its leading and guiding force. It is armed with leading revolutionary theory and unites and expresses the interests of workers, peasants and all the country's working people. It is the best organized, most ideologically cohesive, leading detachment of our society.

A most important direction in the party's political work is to ensure it is inextricably linked with the people. This is the source of its strength and viability. The work of the party as a whole and of all its committees and primary party organizations and each party member and candidate member must be aimed at rallying the broad masses around the party and leading them in strengthening and defending the revolution's gains, establishing lasting civil peace in the country and further implementing national-democratic transformations in the interests of the motherland and the people.

After dwelling on tasks of party building, B. Karmal went on to say:

Our aims are clear and intelligible. We want what the overwhelming majority of our people want -- the motherland's prosperity, freedom and independence. But a handful of enemies -- pathetic accomplices of overthrown feudal lords and international imperialism -- are trying to prevent us from realizing these aims. They burn mosques, schools and hospitals, deprive the population of food, disrupt the working of enterprises and transportation, hinder the cultivation of fields and the gathering of the harvest and terrorize peaceful inhabitants. All this is done under spurious slogans of "struggling for the homeland's faith and freedom."

The situation in the country dictates the need to focus the attention of the whole party, organs of state power and all the public organizations making up the National Fatherland Front on the struggle against armed counterrevolution and on the consolidation of people's power throughout Afghan territory.

The successful implementation of revolutionary transformations in Afghanistan is also connected with external conditions. Consistent actions in defense of peace in our region and throughout the world -- this is the chief aspect of the approach of the PDPA and the revolutionary authorities to international questions.

Afghanistan's sovereignty and freedom and the Afghan people's happiness and prosperity, the speaker emphasized, can be ensured only on condition of the further strengthening and development of fraternal friendship and fruitful cooperation with the great Soviet Union. This friendship and cooperation is the cornerstone of the new Afghanistan's foreign policy and a vitally important factor in the defense of our beloved motherland and the revolutionary transformations.

The PDPA and the DRA Government attach exceptionally great importance to broadening and deepening fraternal ties with the parties, governments and peoples of the socialist community countries, the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee declared, and value highly their achievements in building a new society. We intend to deepen and develop the relations of fraternal friendship and traditional cooperation with the USSR and the other socialist community countries in the political, economic, commercial, cultural, scientific, technical and other spheres as a necessary condition of Afghanistan's advance along the path of progress.

Our country will invariably respect and steadfastly observe the principles and Charter of the United Nations and intends to build its relations with all countries from these positions regardless of their political and social system -- on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and state independence, equality of rights and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

The DRA Government confirms its immutable devotion to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, of which Afghanistan, as one of its founders, has been a member from the very start of its existence.

Our country and our people consistently advocate the strengthening and development of mutually advantageous relations of friendship and cooperation with fraternal Muslim countries and peoples in the common struggle for world peace, disarmament, human rights and mankind's progress.

The party, government and people of Afghanistan will firmly and consistently strengthen unity and solidarity with all peoples of the world in the common struggle for peace, international detente, disarmament, the banning and liquidation of nuclear weapons, friendship of the peoples, freedom, democracy, human rights and social progress, and against the forces of imperialism, aggression and reaction. We will render all possible support to the struggle of all oppressed peoples for freedom, independence and national and social progress.

From such positions, B. Karmal continued, we also approach the solution of the international problems which our fatherland directly encounters today. We are continuing efforts to seek peaceful ways to resolve them and to hold talks between Afghanistan and its neighbors -- Pakistan and Iran. This accords with the fundamental long-term interests of the peoples of our countries and the entire region.

The DRA rejects the policy of separate deals in the Near East and fully supports the struggle of the peoples of the Arab countries to liquidate the consequences of imperialist and Zionist aggression.

The PDPA and the DRA Government will continue to use all opportunities in the foreign policy sphere to promote international detente and to strengthen the atmosphere of cooperation and trust in the world.

The adoption of the PDPA action program is a historic event in the life of our party and country. It generalizes the results of the path traveled by the party, contains an in-depth theoretical analysis of the present stage of the national democratic revolution and elucidates the prospects for its deepening and development.

The adoption and also the consistent and full implementation of the action program will also be of great international significance. The normalization of the situation in our country and the strengthening of the revolutionary system on the basis of democratic transformations and the defeat of armed counterrevolution will signify a substantial contribution to the stabilization of the situation in the region, on the Asian Continent and in the international arena as a whole. This will help to create conditions for strengthening peaceful coexistence and expanding mutually advantageous cooperation among states, in which all peoples are interested, B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, emphasized in conclusion.

The national party conference is continuing its work.

Nationalities Party

LD161530 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 16 Mar, TASS -- Equal opportunities for all peoples and tribes living in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is the policy of the party and revolutionary power, said Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), in his report at the national conference of the party. Dwelling on some questions of the nationalities' policy of the PDPA, he pointed out that one of the essential specific features of the April revolution had been that it was developing in a country with a complex national and tribal composition of the population. In the past, despotic and reactionary regimes have exploited this to set tribes and nationalities at loggerheads, mutually to weaken them and thus to prolong their domination over them. The party and the revolutionary power attach most serious attention to a correct solution of this intricate problem inherited from the past.

Revolutionary power in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal said, for the first time in the long history of the country aims at genuine material and spiritual progress for the entire population of Afghanistan, at safeguarding full equality in rights and opportunities for the all-round development of all nationalities and tribes. They are also granted and guaranteed equal opportunities of participating in social and state affairs, in making revolutionary changes and in defending the country. The general objective necessity of safeguarding material and spiritual progress and development for all engenders and intensifies the process of their rapprochement, cooperation, mutual understanding, friendship and brotherhood.

The party and the revolutionary power proceed and will proceed from recognition of and respect for historic religious and cultural traditions of all nationalities and tribes, their customs and habits. The development of all that is best and valuable in the cultural heritage and traditions of all nationalities and tribes is safeguarded and guaranteed.

The general secretary of the Central Committee of the PDPA emphasized specifically that recognizing and respecting the role and significance of the Pushtu tribes, their traditions and customs, and their way of life, the PDPA and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan pursue a policy of trust, peace and cooperation in relations with them, which flows from the essence of the April revolution and accords with the principles a ideals of the holy religion of Islam.

Address to People

LD152044 Moscow TASS in English 2008 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar, TASS -- Follows the text of the "Address to the People of Afghanistan" adopted at the national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan that ended here today:

Dear compatriots, brothers and sisters all over our beloved country, honest patriots and Moslems. We, representatives of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan -- the vanguard of the working class and all working people of our country -- have just held our party conference at which we discussed important matters, namely what can and must be done to speed up the implementation of the vital aspirations of our long-suffering people, in the name of which the April revolution was made.

The storm of the April revolution has overthrown and swept off our sacred land the feudals and their flunkeys who were waxing rich at the expence of the ordinary people. Our motherland is now a democratic country. From now on its destiny is decided by the people itself.

Brothers and sisters, our land is living through difficult times. The devastative undeclared war waged against our country by the joint forces of internal and external reaction, U.S. imperialism, the Beijing hegemonists and their allies, lasts for over three years. Our revolution does not suit them for the reason that it revealed to the people the essence of the development from backwardness to progress as a result of which our country will become strong and independent. It is not to the liking of reaction that an end has been put to the omnipotence of the oppressors and a democratic land reform is being implemented in the country in the interests of the peasants.

Many people perished in the war that has been unleashed against us. Heavy damage was caused to the economy of our country: Work was stopped at many industrial enterprises that manufactured products which the Afghan people greatly needs, communication failities were greatly damaged, harvests fell off.

And the fact that our motherland still preserved independence, that our people is not dying of hunger is due to the boundless courage and heroism of our valiant armed forces, people's militia, security bodies, units of defence of the revolution, members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, members of the democratic organizations of women and youth, all honest patriots of our motherland, who rose, arms in hands, to defend its freedom, unity, honour and independence.

Our revolution is supported by the entire progressive world with the great Soviet Union at the head. The defence of Afghanistan's national independence and sovereignty by our friend and elder brother the Soviet Union fills our hearts with deep gratitude.

Our conference adopted an action programme. We wish that all honest Moslems and patriots know its contents and we are confident that not one of them can keep apart from its implementation.

What is it that we suggest and are pressing for?

We suggest that measures be implemented as soon as possible to provide jobs for all working people, to ensure equitable pay for work, to start large-scale housing construction for the working people, to introduce price control, to press for improving medical services for the population and introducing universal primary education.

Our revolution rose the banner of the decisive struggle for human rights. No one in Afghanistan should feel humiliated or oppressed. The time of boundless arbitrariness with regard to the common people which the former feudals wish to perpetuate has gone and we shall not allow to bring it back.

The new power shows concern above all for the situation of workers and peasants which was always neglected by the previous regimes.

With the development of the industry, the wages of the workers will be increased and the working and housing conditions will be improved. The party and government will be doing their utmost so that the working class by playing the ever growing role in the life of the country. [sentence as received] The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are striving to provide for the peasants land and water within the shortest possible period of time, to give them material assistance. The revolutionary power wishes to help peasants overcome backwardness, to give education to their children.

The peasants are the most numerous participants in the revolutionary renovation of the motherland, and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is confident that they are becoming ever more determined fighters for the revolution and their own happiness.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is resolved to expand the creative potentialities of Afghan intelligentsia, to encourage its participation in the solution of the most vital problems of our country. The people believe in the country's intelligentsia and expects assistance from it.

Tradesmen and artisans must be confident that the party and people's power are deeply interested in the development of their productive and commercial activity. We regard honest tradesmen and handicraftsmen as participants in our revolution and will be giving them every support. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan regards as participants in the revolution also those national industrialists who promote the flourishing of Afghanistan. The state provides for them assistance and protects them against competition from foreign capital, creates the conditions for mutually-advantageous cooperation with the state sector.

The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan creates the conditions in accordance with which all young people in Afghanistan would be given an opportunity to expand freely their capabilities, to participate in the revolutionary transformation of the country. The state will be encourageing the striving of the children of workers and peasants to become engineers, doctors, lawyers, to acquire other specialities. We call on the working youth to join the Democratic Organisation of Youth of Afghanistan where it will be able to join quickly in public affairs and to use their energy, initiative and talents to the benefit of our beloved motherland. The PDPA considers it its duty to create all conditions for the voluntary participation of women in the country's social and political life. The revolutionary government sees its task not only in the defence of the Afghan woman's rights but also in the protection of her health, in assistance in upbringing her children. The Democratic Organization of Women of Afghanistan should assist women in the exercise of their rights.

On the nationalities question, the policy will be conducted of true equality and equal opportunities for all nationalities of the DRA with strict observation of the principle of voluntariness and convictions. We shall work to promote the acceleration of their drawing together, cooperation, mutual understanding, friendship and fraternity. There can be no strong and flourishing Afghanistan without it!

Together with their revolutionary government, the people must achieve the main thing -- peace and tranquility on the land of their beloved motherland. In all Afghanistan, the bandit leaders alone want no peace. They do not need peace because they capitalize on war. If peace comes, imperialist and hegemonists will stop paying them and they will not be able to plunder without punishment people on the roads or to rob farmers, artisans and peddlers of their money. It is necessary to defeat as soon as possible the bands of rebels and interventionists. In every dis rict and administrative area voluntary detachments of defenders of the revolution and detachments of self-defence must be organized. The government will help these detachments with equipment, clothing, means of communication and transport. We shall not let the rebel pseudomoslems into towns and villages. May the earth burn under the feet of ruffians and robbers!

Moslems, we again solemnly state that respect for the holy religion of Islam lies at the basis of the entire policy of the party and the revolutionary government. Contrary to Islam is the criminal activity of the counter-revolutionaries, and not the desire of the people's power to realise the erstwhile dreams of the working masses of Moslems. That is why we, participants in the conference, call on all Moslems, Ulemas, mullahs and imams to unite for a resolute and merciless struggle against the enemies of our holy religion and against the enemies of our long-suffering people.

Our gallant armed forces, guided by their patriotic duty, are waging a selfless struggle against the internal and external enemies of the revolution, defending its gains. This is a new people's army. The supreme duty for it is to serve its people rather than to shield a handful of exploiters from popular wrath. We call on the servicemen of our armed forces, the people's militia and the security forces to spare no efforts to raise the level of their military training and to strengthen discipline, always be with the people and defend the people.

Dear friends and comrades!

Join the ranks of our heroic armed forces in order to bring nearer the hour when the yearned-for peace and tranquility return to our beloved motherland!

Patriots! Your assistance in raising the economy, restoring and putting in operation the derelict enterprises in existence and building new ones will be an inestimable contribution to the common cause of struggle to build a new society in our country. This will provide employment, bread and homes to hundreds of thousands of people. This will assure means from implementing the plans mapped out, raising the living standards of our people, which will be the first step towards prosperity so much awaited by each honest Moslem -- patriots of his country. It is necessary to protect from the enemy all that constitutes the heritage of the people -- plants, factories, bridges, roads, electric power stations, irrigation canals, schools, hospitals, etc. The enemies are destroying them in order to prolong, through resort to economic dislocation, a state of war. They are indifferent to the grief and the sufferings of the people, to save our beloved country from ruin and plunder is a matter of honour for all patriots and honest Moslems of Afghanistan.

We are firmly convinced that no matter what brutalities counter-revolutionaries commit, no matter how much gold is spent to support our enemies by American imperialists and the Beijing hegemonists, their sinister designs are doomed. They will not be able to put again on the Afghan people the yoke of feudal slavery and exploitation.

People of Afghanistan, the party has no other interests but serving the interests of our beloved motherland. The party wishes the people what every Afghan wants: peace, work, food.

But the victory over the forces of counter-revolutionaries, over oppressors and bandits will not come of itself. It requires complete mobilisation of all our forces and material potentialities, courage, staunchness and restraint. We must be tirelessly rallying our ranks, strengthening cohesion and solidarity of all patriots of our motherland. Victory can be achieved if we fight for it by mustering all our forces.

Sons and daughters of Afghanistan, we urge you to rally around our party and under its leadership to put an end to counter-revolution which bars our people the road to happiness.

May there be peace and tranquility on our beloved land!

May human dignity and mercifullness reign in our motherland!

Forward under the banner of the April revolution to create happiness, independent and prosperous Afghanistan!

Death to counter-revolution, reaction and imperialism!

We shall win!

Conference Resolution

LD151238 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1115 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar, TASS -- The delegates of the national conference of the PDPA, which has ended in the Afghan capital, have unanimously confirmed a resolution "On the Program of Action of the PDPA," which stresses that the national conference of the PDPA unanimously approves the report by the party's Central Committee "On the Draft Program of Action of the PDPA and the Tasks To Strengthen the Party and Intensify Its Links With the People."

The resolution stresses: The program of action drawn up by the collective mind [razum] of the party is the basis for even closer cohesion of the party ranks around the PDPA Central Committee, for strengthening its ideological-political and organizational unity. The program determines the long-term aims and directions of the party's work. It is called upon to unite all the national patriotic forces for the systematic and progressive resolution of the tasks of the April revolution.

The conference notes with satisfaction that the program of action being pursued by the PDPA is the incarnation of the historic dreams and aspirations of the people of Afghanistan and outlines the concrete and real paths for the construction in our country of a new, just and flourishing society and clearly formulates those tasks arising from this for the party, state and public organizations which are part of the National Fatherland Front. Founded on the unshakable provisions of progressive revolutionary theory, it is a worthy reflection of the experience of the struggle of our party and people, taking into consideration the special features of our society and the traditions and spiritual values of ethnic groups, nationalities and tribes which live in the ancient and sacred land of Afghanistan.

Delegates to the conference have unanimously adopted a resolution on "Supplements and Corrections to the PDPA Charter" which speaks of the decision to approve the text of the charter presented by the PDPA Central Committee, taking the supplements and corrections into consideration.

The resolution contains the appeal of the conference delegates to all members and candidate members of the party to elevate the name and significance of party member, to be the example of selfless service of the people, of devotion to the ideals of the April revolution, to close their ranks more closely in the struggle against counterrevolution, for the implementation of revolutionary transformations in the country in the name of a better and happy future. The conference delegates also passed a resolution on the "Priority Tasks of the Party." The national conference of the PDPA, the document says, feels that the Central Committee, the party as a whole and the Government of the DRA are persistently and purposefully implementing a policy directed toward resolving the vital tasks of the April revolution.

On the basis of the tenets of the PDPA program, of Babrak Karmal's report and of the situation in the country, the resolution says, the national conference of the PDPA feels that the efforts of all party members and of all patriots must be channeled to achieving decisive victories in all important areas of our work in the name of the progress of the homeland and of totally defeating counterrevolution. In this connection, the conference approves fully and completely the political line and practical work of the PDPA Central Committee, its action program and the theses and tasks put forward in the report of the secretary general of the PDPA Central Committee, Babrak Karmal.

The resolution stresses the need to concentrate the efforts of the PDPA Central Committee and of the National Fatherland Front on resolving the urgent tasks in the military-political and socioeconomic fields and in the spheres of building and strengthening the PDPA and furthering party ideology.

The resolution notes especially that the conference fully and completely approves the foreign political work of the PDPA directed toward stabilizing the regional political situation and putting into practice the principles of international solidarity, peaceful cooperation and nonalignment.

Nur Ahmad Nur Speech

LD151816 Moscow TASS in English 1802 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar, TASS -- Tasks of immense political importance for the implementation of the action programme are arising before the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA), Nur Ahmad Nur, secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, said today. He spoke here at the national conference of the PDPA. The solution of the tasks calls for a further enhancement of the leading and guiding role of the party in society and the state. In view of this the importance of the party rules -- the fundamental law of the party's life -- is growing.

About two years have passed since the present party rules were adopted at the second plenary session of the PDPA Central Committee. A great achievement of the period, Nur Ahmad Nur pointed out, is that for the first time in the party's history a party apparatus has been set up and numerous professional party cadres trained.

All this enables the party to carry out its policy in the provinces, to ensure the links with the masses of people, and to conduct political and organisational work among the population, enlisting their efforts for the fight against counterrevolutionaries, and to exercise direction of the entire process of revolutionary socio-economic transformations in the country. Proceeding from this, one can draw the conclusion that life has reafffirmed the correctness of the fundamental principled provisions of the party rules, Nur Ahmad Nur emphasized.

With the adoption of the action programme the PDPA enters a new phase of its development and therefore the forms and methods of the party's activities and its entire inner life must be brought into line with these new tasks and the increased responsibility, the secretary of the PDPA Central Committee stressed. The experience gained by the party in the organizational and political work, and the forms and methods, which have proved their value, of the party organizations' rules.

It must be a law for each member of the PDPA to strengthen the unity of the party, to strengthen its links with the masses and on this basis develop and deepen the revolution. This is why it is essential to reflect in the party rules the general rise in the party members' exactingness towards work and the performance of the party duty, to enhance the importance and responsibility of the members and candidate members of the party, Nur Ahmad Nur said.

All the expressed considerations, he pointed out, served as the reason why the seventh plenary session adopted a resolution to put the item "On Additions and Amendments to the Party Rules of the PDPA" on the agenda of the national conference.

It is advisable, the secretary of the Central Committee pointed out, to replace the first paragraph with an introduction to the party rules. It suggests a broader definition of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan as the party of a new type, a higher form of political organization and as the leading and guiding force of our society.

It is necessary to emphasize that the goal of the PDPA is to build in our country a society free of exploitation of man by man, society which would ensure a steady rise in the level of the material and spiritual life of the people on the basis of the speediest development of the country's productive forces.

In the introduction it should be specially emphasized that the ideological and organizational unity of the party is the indefeasible law of its life and that any breach of this law, a manifestation of factionalsim, group activity, and sectarionism are incompatible with being a member of the PDPA.

This part of the party rules should be supplemented with a provision that the PDPA acts not in isolation but at one with the international working-class and progressive movement and that our party is a component of these movements.

The experience of the international revolutionary movement shows, Nur Ahmad Nur went on to say, that the ideological and organizational unity of the party, the strength of contacts with the masses and action capacity depend in a decisive degree on the composition of the party, on the consciousness of its members and degree of organization. To the PDPA which is the vanguard of the working class and all working people the problem of improving the social composition of the party has always been and remains the major question of development and further strengthening. Nur Ahmad Nur also pointed out the need for the undeviating observance of the principle of democratic centralism.

Other Speakers

LD151118 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar, TASS -- A national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is continuing its work in Kabul. More than 840 delegates -- workers, peasants, intellectuals and servicemen -- are discussing the report of General Secretary of the party Central Committee Babrak Karmal "On the Draft Programme of Actions of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and Tasks of Consolidating the Party and Strengthening Its Ties With the People."

First Secretary of the Kabul city party committee Z. Razmju, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, Chairman of the National Patriotic Front Saleh Mohammad Ziray, Chairman of the Central Council of Trade Unions 'Abdol Sattar Pordeli, peasant from Kunduz Province Amanollah Dehkan, worker from Juzjan Nazif Ahmad and many other speakers expressed on behalf of the country's working people support for the policy of the party and the DRA Government directed at defending the gains of the April Revolution.

A speech by member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, who outlined prospects of the republic's socio-economic development, evoked great interest of the delegates.

Karmal Closes Conference

LD151348 Moscow TASS in English 1343 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Kabul, 15 Mar, TASS -- The national conference of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan clearly demonstrated the unity of the party, said today Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee in his speech at the closing meeting of the national conference of the PDPA.

This forum showed the increased ideological and theoretical maturity of the PDPA, its ability to assess objectively the real situation and to lay down a general line for its further advance, a line which will be duly appreciated by the mass of the people and received by them as a matter of vital concern to them. Let this atmosphere of unity spread to the entire party. It is only in this way that the party can discharge its historic mission -- to be a truly political vanguard of the people in the struggle for its happy future, Babrak Karmal stressed.

Our national conference was widely supported by the progressive forces of the world. The messages of greetings and congratulations it received from fraternal and friendly parties, movements and organizations leave no doubt that the truly revolutionary and progressive forces of our time are with us, Babrak Karmal stressed.

CPSU Greetings

PM151245 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 1

[Text] Dear Comrades:

The CPSU Central Committee sends ardent greetings to the participants in the PDPA national conference and wishes them successes in its work.

The PDPA, expressing the fundamental interests of the peoples of Afghanistan and heads the struggle of all Afghanistan's progressive, democratic and patriotic forces for the creation of a free, just society on its ancient land. Under the party's leadership and through the will of the working people an antifeudal national democratic revolution has been accomplished which opened up before Afghanistan the road to social progress, national renewal and the strengthening of the country's sovereignty and independence.

In the time which has elapsed since the April revolution, the PDPA and the DRA Governments have performed a large amount of work to consolidate and develop the socioeconomic gains achieved and to improve the population's living standard and develop its spiritual culture with consideration for national features and traditions. The social base of the progressive regime is broadening, the new state power is strengthening and representatives of the various strata of the population are joining the ranks of the active builders of the republic. The program for the further stabilization of the situation in the country is being successfully implemented, ensuring that the entire people turn to the solution of vital socioeconomic tasks.

The important advances taking place in the DRA are inextricable linked with the PDPA's great constructive activity and leading role in society. At the new stage of the April revolution, the party has been able to overcome the difficulties facing it and to rally to the defense of the motherland and the revolution the broad people's masses and active patriotic forces of society. The PDPA's successful activity is promoted by the constant efforts of its leadership aimed at restoring to its ranks and atmosphere of mutual trust, organizational and ideological unity and principledness, at expanding the party's ranks and strengthening party discipline, at seeking improved forms and methods of mass political work, and at improving the party cadres' ideological and political standard.

Your conference is taking place under conditions wherein international imperialism and its allies are waging a fierce struggle against the people's system established in the country and the government with the aid of the armed gangs being dispatched onto DRA territory and of internal reaction. For their aggressive purposes they are continuing the undeclared war against Afghanistan and want to cast it back into its feudal past and subordinate it to foreign, imperialist forces. This policy is generating mounting and organized resistance from the Afghan patriots in whose vanguard the PDPA marches.

The CPSU and our entire people, following the deep traditions of Soviet-Afghan friendship and guided by the principle of international solidarity, resolutely support the revolutionary people of Afghanistan in their aspiration to create a new society.

We express the certainty that the national conference will strengthen the unity and cohesion of the PDPA ranks and will be an important step on Afghanistan's path to peace and to all-round social and economic progress.

Long live the friendship and solidarity between the CPSU and the PDPA!

May the friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and the DRA strengthen and develop!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

PRAVDA Correspondent's Report

LD160740 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] In the Afghan capital, reports a PRAVDA correspondent from Kabul, the national conference of the PDPA has completed its work. The unity and cohesion of party ranks, the raising of its authority in the broad masses and its leading role in society, the intensification of the struggle against counterrevolution, day-to-day concern for the development of the country's economy -- these were the main issues on which attention was concentrated by conference delegates. Delegates greeted with warm applause the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to the conference. The participants adopted a PDPA action program and an appeal to the Afghan people.

The party feels, the documents say, that in modern conditions the main thing for the party and the revolutionary government, together with the defense of the homeland, is constructive activity directed at improving the life of the people, the achievement of all-round social progress in Afghanistan. Afghanistan's chief aim in the field of foreign policy, which the People's Democratic Party intends invariably to pursue, consists of the defense of territorial unity, state sovereignty and independence, the report points out. The DRA repeatedly demonstrated its adherence to the cause of peace. The cornerstone of the republic's foreign policy is strengthening and developing relations of fraternal friendship and traditional cooperation with the USSR and other countries of the socialist community.

Special Dispatch

PM161015 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 5

[Special correspondents L. Mironov, B. Tretyachenko dispatch: "In the Working People's Interests"]

[Text] Kabul -- The Kabul streets, decked in the red calico of party flags and slogans, are looking smart these days. A PDPA conference is beginning work here.

The party was set up in January 1965. For the first time since the April 1978 revolution, its best representatives have gathered for their forum to define the PDPA's general course and the forms and methods of party leadership.

A difficult and complex path of formation, development and strengthening has been traveled in the past 17 years since the first PDPA congress. The party program proclaimed its general line to be the struggle to build a society in Afghanistan "free of oppression and man's exploitation by man." During the years of the monarchical and Daoud regimes, the PDPA acted as defender of the working people's fundamental interests. Its members participated actively in organizing strikes, meetings, protest marches and demonstrations, and published and distributed leaflets which exposed the ruling reactionary regimes' antipopular policy.

An anti-imperialist, antifeudal national democratic revolution took place on 27 April 1978 under the leadership of the PDPA, which united within its ranks progressively minded representatives of the Afghan intelligentsia, patriotically minded officers, civil servants, students and some workers. It created the conditions for the consistent democratization of public life and state administration and for the accelerated development of the national economy and culture.

The first party program's main strategic task -- "the gaining of political power and the choice of a national democratic path for the country's development" -- has been fulfilled. From being an opposition and comparatively small organization, the PDPA has become the ruling party, the acknowledged vanguard of the working class and all working people and the leading force of the state's new political system.

Tremendous harm was done to the PDPA and the revolution by the splittist antiparty activity of H. Amin, who forced his way to power, implanted his own cult and violated the norms of democracy and discipline. After the 27 December 1979 victory of patriotic forces headed by Babrak Karmal, active measures were taken aimed at stabilizing the situation in the country, restoring revolutionary legality and order, establishing an atmosphere of trust and cooperation and ensuring the unity of party ranks.

The adoption in 1980 of the policy document "The PDPA Central Committee Theses for the Second Anniversary of the April revolution" was of great significance. The theses have played a positive role in developing the party's theoretical thought and practical activity. It is on their basis that the PDPA Central Committee has built its policy, adopted important decisions and implemented social and economic transformations in the country.

"The PDPA has come to its national conference numerically and organizationally strengthened, ready to fulfill responsibly its leading role of political vanguard of the working class and all working people," (Kavyani Nadzhmuddin), chief of the PDPA Central Committee's organizational section, told us. "The national forum was preceded by meetings and conferences in primary, district, regional, city and provincial organizations which discussed the results of the seventh PDPA Central Committee plenum and elected delegates. The speakers unanimously approved the PDPA Central Committee's line toward strengthening and intensifying its ties with the people. Quite a few valuable proposals were made on improving organizational and political work.

At the same time, (Kavyani Nadzhmuddin) noted, weak aspects in some committees' ideological and educational work were also uncovered. Subjectivism and factionalism are still making themselves felt and not all party members are fulfilling the requirements of the rules. On occasions they have forgotten, from personal or group interests, that the party's strength lies in its cohesion and organization. It is a matter of honor for party committees to resolutely eliminate these shortcomings and strengthen party discipline.

The presentation of party cards to PDPA members, which has begun, was a great event which coincided with the preparation for the conference. In addition to leaders, many advanced workers, peasants, armed forces servicemen and representatives of the intelligentsia have received party documents.

Among the conference delegates are over 100 representatives of the working class and peasantry.

The ceremonial foundation-laying of a monument to heroes of the April revolution took place at a square in the very center of Kabul on the eve of the opening of the party forum.

"It will be erected in honor of those," B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, said at the meeting, "who gave their lives for the revolution and to those who are also defending its gains now."

Thousands of citizens and the conference delegates present at the ceremony swore an oath to spare neither efforts nor, if necessary, their life, for the sake of the victory of the April revolution's ideals.

SOLOMENTSEV LEADS DELEGATION TO BULGARIA

LD171006 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet today left Moscow for Sofia on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the People's Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The delegation is headed by Comrade Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers and deputy of the USSR Supreme Soviet. At the airport it was seen off by Comrade Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and member of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials.

WARSAW ENGINEER BRIGADE SERVES HOMELAND

LD161642 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 16 Mar 82

["A Severe Test Being Passed With Honor" -- TASS headline by correspondent Aleksandr Potemkin]

[Text] Warsaw, 16 Mar (TASS) -- The sharp crack of individual rounds of submachinegun fire became audible almost immediately after the gates leading into the grounds of the Warsaw Brigade of Engineers, one of the most meritorious units of the Polish People's Army, opened up in front of the vehicle we were traveling in.

"It's quite routine," said the soldier accompanying our car to the brigade headquarters. "The latest detail has returned from its duties protecting state installations and has begun weapon practice."

Colonel L. Boguszewski, commander of the unit, said:

The important tasks of protecting the socialist order which we have been assigned by the Military Council of National Salvation in connection with the martial law within the country have not disrupted the progress of military and political training. Admittedly, training schedules have become tighter and there is more to do, but the soldiers are displaying a high degree of understanding of their military duty and they feel that today, more than ever, their country needs them.

The Warsaw Engineers Brigade is one of the units of the Polish People's Army for which the terrible explosions of World War II have not yet died down. Despite the fact that its soldiers were born when the battles with the invaders had passed into history, some of them still have to take on the enemy even today at the risk of their lives -- to defuse fascist bombs, shells and mines which have remained since the war. The famous Warsaw mine-clearing group belongs to precisely this brigade. Last year, for example, soldiers in this group defused about 2,500 deadly munitions. This year soldiers in the brigade looked "rusty death" straight in the eyes -- this is what these terrible memorials of the war are called in Poland -- more than 500 times.

However, the daily life of the unit today includes not only combat training but labor targets. The brigade was given the honorary title of "Warsaw" for its peaceful feat in restoring the Polish capital from the ruins. The inhabitants of Warsaw know well the courteous and correct soldiers of the brigade who are on patrol, guarding many suburban stations and practically all the bridges linking both banks of the Vistula in the city.

The bridges and artesian wells, stadiums and many economic installations built by the engineers have become material memorials of their labor for the good of socialist Poland in many other corners of the country. The volume of work done by detachments of the brigade in the economy in 1981 alone, a difficult year for the Polish economy, amounts to a large sum -- 52.5 million zlotys. The engineers built 11 new bridges, renovated 3 schools and have done a good deal of other work, even within the period of military rule.

The secret of success of the unit's high combat readiness is not difficult to discover. It lies in the constantly intense labor and meticulous work of the command and political officers in educating the aware defenders of the socialist motherland.

We have come to the conclusion, said Lt Col C. Jurek, secretary of the brigade party committee, that in the present circumstances the simplest forms of political training -- which proved themselves during the war years at the front -- are highly effective if carried out together with planned combat training. Agitation groups have been set up formed from the best trained officers, members of the PZPR. They travel to the combat units dispersed to various sites as a result of the special features of patrol work due to martial law. On site, they not only deliver political talks but provide practical advice to junior colleagues on many other questions and share their experiences. They also find out what the soldiers need. Nothing can replace the effect of a simple talk with their charges on the most varied topics by officers of the agitation group.

Together with the above, modern means and methods of ideological educational work are being applied widely by political workers. Exemplary orderliness in the vehicle parking lots and classrooms, as well as on the shooting ranges and test grounds where training in the defusing of mines and firing practice was proceeding normally demonstrate clearly that the entire brigade is honorably passing the harsh test of martial law.

The measures taken by the government and the Military Council of National Salvation are necessary and timely, said Lance Corporal [starshiy ryadovoy] T. Krzizhanowski, driver of a military vehicle. Of course, it was not easy to stay on in the army for an extra year because of martial law; I have a family: two small children. But recently I got back home and became convinced of the fact that martial law provided many positive results. My wife and I can go out onto the streets without worrying; we do not have to fear adventurers who may not like my uniform. And our material situation is also beginning to improve gradually.

Corporal T. Krzyzanowski intends to return after his service to his former place of work -- to the construction site and to the Union of Socialist Polish Youth in which he worked actively prior to his service in the army. I know for sure: No repetition of what has happened must be permitted. Everything which was begun by martial law must be continued.

Such citizens of People's Poland are educated in work under arms and in peace, in intense militant and political training by the Warsaw Brigade of Engineers. The brigade was formed and tempered during fighting for liberation from the Fascist aggressors side by side with Soviet troops. On its emblem is the slogan: "Always for the Service of the Homeland." By their deeds, the engineers do it justice.

SEROV ASSAILS NORWEGIAN NATO INVOLVEMENT

LD161806 Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 16 Mar 82

[By TASS political news analyst Vladimir Serov]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Mar, TASS -- Every time when it is needed to "substantiate" a build-up of armaments by the North Atlantic bloc and the spread of the arms race by it to new areas, the arms-race advocates in NATO countries usually rake up the old yarn as to a "Soviet military threat". The FRG's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher has not departed from this custom either. During a meeting in Bonn with Norwegian Foreign Minister Svenn Stray, he asserted that a "massive build up of Soviet military potential upsets the balance of forces in Europe's north".

Why did the Bonn minister need to put facts upside down and to impute to the Soviet Union what NATO countries headed by the United States do themselves? The answer proceeds from the very pronouncements by Herr Genscher. He needed that to justify "the determination of NATO" to deploy new U.S. nuclear missiles in Western Europe in order to bind Norway still more closely to the NATO military chariot and to draw that country still more into military preparations which the North Atlantic bloc, and first of all the United States, are making in the European Continent's north.

Facts which are evidence of that are commonly known. Let us recall only the storing in Norwegian territory of U.S. heavy armament intended for equipping a Marine brigade which is to be airlifted to Norway from across the ocean if it seemed to Washington that a "crisis situation" originated in the area. Let us further recall the use of Norwegian airfields by U.S. strategic bombers, and of Norwegian bases to serve U.S. nuclear-powered submarines, fitted out with nuclear missiles, which cruise in the North Atlantic.

Let us recall, finally, NATO's big military exercises conducted in Norwegian territory, exercises which have become frequent of late. Aren't all these indicative of the U.S. efforts to turn Norway into its advanced strategic staging area spearheaded against the USSR, and of the USA's and NATO's attempts at drawing that Nordic country into the realization of their dangerous militariest plans leading to a destabilization of the military-strategic situation both in Europe's North and in the European Continent as a whole.

All this, of course, is known to the West German foreign minister. Known to him of course, are also the Soviet proposals in support of the idea of creating a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. Should not one -- instead of making statements distorting the real state of things -- regard earnestly the study of this constructive initiative aimed at ensuring peace, security and stability in Europe's North?

PRAVDA REPORTS ON GREEK-TURKISH FRICTION

PM160917 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Mar 82 p 5

[TASS Report: "Determination in Greek-Turkish Relations"]

[Text] Athens, 13 Mar -- There have been official reports here of new violations of Greek airspace by Turkish Air Force planes. Yesterday alone five such incidents were recorded in the region of the Greek island of Kastellorizon. The Greek charge d'affaires ad interim in Turkey received instructions in this connection to make a resolute protest to the Turkish authorities. The government council which deals with defense and foreign policy problems under the chairmanship of Greek Premier A. Papandreou met yesterday for an emergency session at which the question of the deterioration in Greek-Turkish relations was discussed.

As observers point out, instances of provocative incursions by Turkish warplanes into Greek airspace have increased considerably recently.

Greece has already taken steps within the framework of NATO, drawing attention to Turkey's provocative actions in border regions, which are creating a threat for the country's security. At the NATO council's December 1981 session Greece refused to sign the final communique of the military planning committee session since it did not include propositions guaranteeing Greece's security in the face of the threat from "one of the NATO members."

MOSCOW VIEWS U.S.-WEST EUROPE DISAGREEMENTS

LD162334 Moscow in French to Europe 1730 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Last week French President Francois Mitterrand paid a 24-hour visit to Washington, where he had talks with President Reagan on a vast assortment of problems. Economic questions are at the root of the most acute differences. Reagan again refused to lower interest rates. He once again criticized the agreements concluded by several European countries with the USSR on the supply of Siberian natural gas. This is what our commentator Viktor Shlenov writes in this connection:

President Reagan's policies affect to an ever greater degree countries facing economic difficulties. Inflation is rampant, business is slowing down, enterprises are closing, tens of thousands of unemployed are swelling the ranks of the jobless in the countries of the EEC, where they number nearly 10.5 million.

To demands by West European politicians to lower interest rates, Reagan replies that the United States must first of all put its own house in order. However, the U.S. administration's methods are to be viewed with caution. Given its greatly increased military expenditures, it is hardly likely that the United States will lower interest rates, because the inflation which the United States is trying to overcome by making credit more expensive is mainly a result of the arms race, which is ultrasophisticated and consequently extra costly. Hardly a day goes by without the American leaders giving assurances to the West Europeans of unshakable friendship and faith. But their actions prove the contrary. The West Europeans have the uneasy feeling that the assurances of friendship really conceal a U.S. desire to jeopardize the trade position of its Old World commercial rivals. This is shown by the interest rates, the many customs obstacles put in the way of West European imports, as well as the current trip to Europe by U.S. Under Secretary of State James Buckley. According to press reports, James Buckley is trying to convince the U.S. allies to apply economic sanctions against the USSR and the socialist countries -- in other words to try and destroy the economic links between West Europe and the Soviet Union, links that are mutually advantageous and that ensure jobs for hundreds of thousands of workers in France, Italy and the FRG by guaranteeing to those countries sources of vitally important energy. We must refer to the EEC commission's 30 Days of Europe, which says Europe must be just as tough as the United States in defending its economic interest.

BUSH SPEECH: ISRAEL REMAINS 'SACRED CAUSE' TO U.S.

LD161830 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1103 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Speaking here at the conference of Zionist organizations, U.S. Vice President G. Bush has again given the Reagan administration's assurance that Israel's interests are "a sacred cause." "We are strategic allies and friends," said the vice president. "Our obligations to Israel are greater than anything else."

He recognized that the U.S. policy of flirting with "moderate" Arab countries in the Middle East is duplicitous and that one of its main aims is to guarantee Israel's interests. "The attempt to extend U.S. influence in the region by encouraging moderation among the Arab countries is not an anti-Israeli policy. Bush stressed that on the contrary it is of advantage to Israel. It is evident from his speech that Washington does not intend to repudiate the deadlocked Camp David policy, nor does it wish to recognize the Arab people of Palestine's legal rights to true self-determination.

U.S. PLANS NEW 'ARMED PROVOCATION' AGAINST LIBYA

LD162204 Moscow TASS in English 2139 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Washington, 16 Mar, TASS -- The Reagan administration is planning a new armed provocation against Libya. As is clear from the words of John Lehman, U.S. secretary of the Navy, who spoke at a press conference here, exercises of the U.S. Sixth Fleet are to be held in the Mediterranean in the coming months in direct proximity to Libyan shores. In so doing Lehman cynically stated that the U.S. Navy periodically held exercises in the area for many years and will continue to do that.

The Navy secretary's statement was made several days after Reagan's decision to impose restrictions on trade with Libya, in particular to stop the import of Libyan oil. It is pointed out here that the oil boycott has become a continuation of the program for U.S. fight against Libya. The piratic attack by U.S. aircraft on two Libyan planes over the Gulf of Sidra, the concentration of big naval forces near Libyan shores, the holding of the Bright Star military exercises, the recall of the U.S. personnel, and the anti-Libyan drive launched in the USA are known to have become the links of that provocative campaign.

VIKTOR MININ APPOINTED NEW AMBASSADOR TO IRAQ

LD151536 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 15 Mar, TASS -- Viktor Minin has been appointed USSR ambassador in Iraq.

He was born in 1926. He has been on diplomatic work since 1948 and held a number of important posts in the central apparatus of the USSR Foreign Ministry and abroad. In 1963-1965 he was counsellor of the Department of Southeast Asia of the USSR Foreign Ministry. In 1965-1968 he was counsellor of the USSR Embassy in Turkey, in 1968-1972 USSR ambassador in Laos, in [words indistinct] chief of the Department of Middle Eastern Countries of the USSR Foreign Ministry, in 1978-1982 USSR ambassador in the People's Revolutionary Republic of Guinea.

Anatoliy Barkovskiy has been relieved of the duties of USSR ambassador in Iraq in connection with another appointment.

CULTURAL-SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM SET WITH KUWAIT

LD161818 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] A program of cultural and scientific exchanges between the state of Kuwait and the USSR for the years 1982-83 has been signed in Kuwait. It provides for further broadening of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of culture, art, education and health care.

U.S. PLANS, PROVOCATIONS AGAINST NICARAGUA SCORED

Airspace Violation, Other Plans

PY162142 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 11 Mar 82

[Text] The United States has perpetrated another provocation against Nicaragua which is a downright violation of international law. U.S. planes of a special design flew across Nicaraguan territory and took pictures of it, a maneuver which intelligence services consider unnecessary and to no avail. Bobby Inman, CIA deputy director, and John Hughes, Defense Intelligence Agency deputy director, brazenly showed photographs that purportedly are of Nicaraguan territory. In a letter addressed to the U.S. Government, the Government of Nicaragua stalwartly protested such inadmissible actions, for they worsen even more the already red hot Central American situation.

Moreover, the photographs of Nicaraguan territory serve U.S. intelligence services as evidence of the "aggressiveness" of Nicaragua. Washington undoubtedly lacks such evidence to justify its own real, and not false, aggression against Central American countries. The CIA men are desperately trying to obtain such evidence, although their efforts are to no avail, of course, for it is conspicuously absent.

Bobby Inman and John Hughes now show photographs to congressmen and point out spots where, according to the lush imagination of these men, there are military bases which jeopardize U.S. security. Pursuant to this, the White House will ask Congress to earmark new sums of money to perpetrate further aggressive acts against Central America and the Caribbean. This undoubtedly includes the $20 million which the U.S. administrators have alloted for armed provocations on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border.

The Washington POST, a source which cannot be termed unreliable, reports that President Reagan has approved the CIA's plan to deploy 500 Somozists in Honduras, close to the Nicaraguan border. These men are entrusted with the task of infiltrating Nicaragua and blowing up factories, bridges, railways and roads in order to undermine the economy.

In this regard we cannot but recall the disclosure by generals of the Pentagon which brought about an invasion by mercenaries of Nicaragua across the Honduran border. The United States will impose a military blockade on Nicaragua, taking advantage of the Caribbean forces command under the cynical pretext of preventing an intervention in the affairs of Nicaragua.

Right before the eyes of the whole world, the United States is thus preparing aggression against Nicaragua and is perpetrating acts which grossly violate the sovereign rights of the Nicaraguan people and the universal rules of international coexistence. An armed attack is being planned against the Nicaraguans, who are being charged with receiving ammunition supplies to repel the attack.

Such is the logic applied by the imperialists, which could weigh on the conscience of those who intend to apply it to international relations, were it not for the fact that in this case it deals with the fate of the other peoples whom Washington intends to involve in fratricidal wars. It is the fate of the Hondurans, for the invasion of Nicaragua is being planned from Honduran territory. It also applies to the people of Costa Rica, whom the United States has involved in an anti-Nicaraguan political alliance, as well as Venezuela and Colombia.

The Venezuelans are being forced to support Central American antipopular regimes, while on the Colombian islands the Pentagon intends to set up its military bases for use against Nicaragua and Cuba. Pressure is also being exerted on Argentina to get it to send military detachments to El Salvador.

In the light of the above, the presence of U.S. combat planes in Nicaraguan air space is a serious warning to all Latin American peoples.

Justification Campaign

PM161157 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Mar 82 p 5

[Correspondent N. Kurdyumov dispatch: "Preparing Aggression"]

[Text] Washington, 11 Mar -- The Washington administration is launching an unprecedented campaign of slander and threats against Nicaragua and is clearly preparing the way for justifying subversive U.S. actions against that small Central American country. With this aim in mind, official Washington has staged a propaganda spectacular with photographs.

A State Department press conference which, according to press evidence, was reminiscent in character of an "almost theatrical setting" was addressed by B. Inman, deputy director of the CIA, and J. Hughes, deputy director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, who, displaying pictures of military barracks and also indicating the presence in Nicaragua of some tanks and howitzers, accused that country's government of creating an army whose size exceeds the needs of self-defense.

Characterizing the slanderous accusations against Nicaragua, the Washington POST notes that the administration's propaganda exercises are one salvo in Washington's attempt "to influence public opinion and counter the growing opposition in Congress and througout the country" to President Reagan's line of support for the Salvadoran junta and his hostile attitude toward Nicaragua.

Citing informed officials in the Reagan administration, the Washington POST writes that the President has approved a plan for secret operations against Nicaragua which authorizes the CIA to set up and finance groups of up to 500 Latin American mercenaries to carry out sabotage from camps along the Nicaraguan border with Honduras. According to ABC-TV, special "commando" detachments have been set up for transfer to Nicaragua comprising over 1,000 men who have undergone training in Argentina in accordance with a program formulated by the U.S. administration. They will also be manned with former servicemen from the notorious Green Berets, who were notable for their cruelty in reprisals against civilians of the Indochinese countries during Washington's Vietnamese adventure.

The starting date of the operations is still unknown, but one aim of the subversive actions ultimately will be an attempt to destroy vitally important installations such as power stations and bridges with the aim of disorganizing Nicaragua's economy.

Practical preparations have also begun for carrying out a planned invasion of Nicaragua by Pentagon and CIA forces. Urgent consultations are being held with Honduras and Colombia with the aim of using offshore islands in the Gulf of Fonseca and the Caribbean for the transshipment of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces.

Observers here have not been slow to note that President Reagan declined to reply at an 18 February press conference when he was asked about the reports which had appeared regarding planned U.S. secret operations against Nicaragua.

On Capitol Hill both chambers of the U.S. Congress are reflecting the democratic U.S. public's growing opposition to the Reagan administration's course of candid support for the most reactionary dictatorial regimes in Latin America. Congressman B. Rosenthal (Democrat, New York) has submitted a draft resolution in the House of Representatives calling for an end to all U.S. military interference in El Salvador in the belief that the administration's present policy is reminiscent of the U.S. actions at the beginning of the Pentagon's Vietnam adventure. Coauthors of the resolution were Congressmen P. Burton and D. Edwards (both from California), M. Conyers (Michigan) and R. Kastenmeier (Wisconsin).

Concern over the administration's course toward the Central American countries, particularly El Salvador, is also being shown in the Senate, where R. Byrd, leader of the Democratic minority in the Senate, has submitted an amendment to the law on the administration's military authority which provides for the preliminary consent of Congress in the event of a White House decision to send U.S. forces into El Salvador.

According to press reports, the Democrats and some Republicans in Congress are inclined to slow down as much as possible the process of increasing military aid to Chile, El Salvador and Guatemala.

Enders' Tour, CIA Moves

PY161842 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 15 Mar 82

[Text] President Ronald Reagan has approved a plan designed to destabilize Nicaragua and other Central American and Caribbean countries. In the meantime, U.S. ships and troops are provocatively parading through that area in preparation for a direct invasion.

Thomas Enders, Reagan's proconsul for Latin America, has concluded a tour of South America designed to secure diplomatic support and men to intervene in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Grenada and Cuba.

In a congressional hearing in Washington, Enders disseminated additional propaganda material to justify U.S. aggression against Cuba, having reached the point of charging the Cuban Government with involvement in an alleged politically-motivated drug traffic to the United States.

A major role in the plan orchestrated against Nicaragua and the Central American peoples is in the hands of the CIA. Citing U.S. congressional officials and sources, the New York TIMES yesterday reported that some covert actions are already being implemented -- for instance, "delivery of millions of dollars to counterrevolutionary groups and individuals who in several countries are preparing for the invasion."

Also part of the operations entrusted to the CIA and other organizations of the so-called U.S. intelligence community is to launch an attack on what has been described as a route for funneling arms from Nicaragua into El Salvador.

This is the issue which Mr Enders went to discuss in Latin America. Reports from U.S. Government and congressional sources state that President Reagan has approved the allocation of $19 million to implement the plan designed to destabilize Nicaragua and other countries.

This plan envisages the financing of operations of a selected group of 500 mercenaries, commandos and specialized saboteurs who, according to the New York TIMES, would aim their attacks at the vital sectors of the Nicaraguan economy.

Similarly, the Pentagon's spy agency DIA [Defense Intelligence Agency] and the CIA have put on a real show with pictures taken by spy planes in Nicaraguan air space. The pictures show certain materiel the country needs to secure its defense. They were not, however, instrumental in substantiating earlier accusations by the White House about the alleged presence of Cubans or individuals from other socialist countries in Nicaragua or the supply of arms to the Salvadoran patriotic forces.

The fact that CIA and Pentagon spy planes have been used in the campaign against Nicaragua indicates that the United States will spare no expense in its subversive action against the Central American country.

From Honduras the Honduran Council for Peace and Friendship With Nicaragua has pointed to another aspect of the plot. Thousands of Somozist guards, militarily organized and on alert status, are preparing along the Honduran-Nicaraguan border with U.S. protection, financing and advice. Similar training programs are taking place in military camps located on U.S. soil with the acquiescence of U.S. officials.

Rejection of Proposals

LD161812 Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 16 Mar 82

[By TASS political news analyst Nikolay Chigir]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Mar, TASS -- The Steering Council of the Nicaraguan Government has decided to introduce the state of emergency in the country. The decision was prompted by the mounting threat of an external aggression against Nicaragua, which has been prepared by the Washington administration for a long time and which has assumed an unprecedented scope of late, a fact openly admitted by the U.S. press itself.

The proof of the threat of armed intervention looming large over Nicaragua is provided not only by the active military preparations around that country, conducted under the supervision of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the Pentagon, first of all the concentration of large military contingents in the Honduras areas bordering on Nicaragua. Further evidence about the United States' anti-Nicaraguan plans is also served by the Washington leaders' political manoeuvres.

The U.S. Government, as is known, has failed to give a concrete answer to the Mexican president's important initiative regarding a peaceful, negotiated settlement in Central America. It has stubbornly continued to ignore also the Nicaraguan Government's recent peaceful, constructive proposals, including, in particular, the latter's desire to sign a treaty of non-aggression and mutual security with Cost Rica and Honduras on the basis of the principles on non-interference and mutual respect, and its declared readiness to maintain friendly relations with the United States and open talks with it on any problem of concern to both sides.

Instead of assuming a positive stand with regard to these proposals which have met most broadly based support among the world public, above all in Latin America, Washington is continuing to prepare aggressive actions against Nicaragua. At the same time it has started playing sordid propaganda tricks in a bid to create the impression that it is seeking ways of ensuring a peaceful settlement. Can U.S. State Secretary Alexander Haig's statement at a press conference after a two-day conference attended by the Foreign Ministers of Canada, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia be assessed in any other way? Fully passing Mexico's and Nicaragua's proposals over in silence, Alexander Haig came up again with the United States' old proposals of last August, which he tried to present as a new initiative allegedly aimed at a "peaceful solution" of Central American problems.

The U.S. proposals, however, do not contain a word about the treaties of non-aggression between Nicaragua and neighbouring countries or a hint that the U.S. is going to abandon its policy of aggression against Nicaragua. As regards Alexander Haig's proposal for mutual commitment to honour the principle of non-interference, it is a clear propaganda ploy. For it is the violation by the United States of precisely this principle that lies at the core of the extremely tense situation in Central America.

The CBS network said that the proposals enumerated by State Secretary Haig did not contain anything new and had already been rejected by Nicaragua before. The repitition of the proposals and attempts to present them as something "new" can only be described as a smoke-screen designed to enable Washington, which as before is banking on armed interference in Nicaragua and Caribbean America as a whole, to have a card up its sleeve.

In this connection it will be appropriate to quote a CBS news presenter who has just returned from a trip to Central America. Having said that the United States throughout the history of its relations with Latin America staged 14 armed actions against Mexico, 13 against Cuba, 11 against Panama, 10 against Nicaragua, 9 against the Dominican Republic, 7 against Colombia, 7 against Honduras, 5 against Haiti, 3 against Puerto Rico, and 2 against Guatemala, he emphasised that the reports about President Reagan's instructions to the CIA to perform military operations in order to undermine the Nicaraguan Government is only the latest link in a long chain of actions, involved in the policy of violence pursued by the United States with regard to its southern neighbours.

HONDURAN ISLAND BECOMING U.S. ESPIONAGE CENTER

LD162220 Moscow TASS in English 2123 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Managua, 16 Mar (TASS) -- Units of U.S. Marines are already stationed on the Amapala Island in the Gulf of Fonseca, the Nicaraguan news agency ANN reported today.

The Pentagon is turning the island belonging to Honduras into its own training rante and espionage centre for conducting subversive activity against Nicaragua. In an interview to the newspaper EL TIEMPO which appears in [word indistinct], Counsellor of the Foreign Ministry of Honduras Andres Alvardo (?Puerto) said that the United States is "transforming" the Amapala Island into a second "Guantanamo base" in Central America.

According to newsmen who recently visited Amapala, that small island with a population of merely 15 thousand looks like a fortress. The people of the island created the defence committee and demand the withdrawal of all servicemen from Amapala.

SALVADORAN ELECTION FOLLOWS WASHINGTON 'SCRIPT'

PY170205 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Spanish to Latin America 0130 GMT 6 Mar 82

[Text] Napoleon Duarte, the leader of the Salvadoran junta, has stated his electoral campaign and his threatened to punish severly those who do not participate in his electoral farce. This is a macabre prelude of the infamous political show stated by the Salvadoran bosses following the script provided by Washington.

Coincidentally, although the coincidence is naturally easy to explain, General Nutting, the chief of the U.S. southern command, arrived at the Salvadoran capital on the same day the campaign was launched with the purpose, as the U.S. Embassy put it, of getting first hand information of the local situation.

Cannons usually start roaring when generals arrive. As a matter of fact, the outpouring of U.S. military equipment does not stop: A few days ago the junta received A-37 combat planes, which had never before been supplied to any country of the Western Hemisphere. The planes were used to attack the insurgents right away. This has once again confirmed the direct participation of the Yankees in the military actions in El Salvador, because as everyone knows, the junta has no pilots trained to fly that kind aircraft.

However, the government troops' offensive has not succeeded. The heavily-armed junta troops have been trying for a long time to break down the patriots' resistance in the Guazapa volcano region. Defense Minister Col Jose Garcia himself is conducting the punitive action, which is supported by tanks, artillery and the air force. Even the Atlacatl Brigade, trained in Green Berets' techniques by Pentagon advisers, has joined tne action.

Junta troops have suffered heavy casualties during the bloody combats. Radio Venceremos, the insurgents' radio station, has reported that the detachments of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front have killed more than 200 junta soldiers and officers in the Guazapa region.

While frontline soldiers intensify their actions all over the country, the military brutes take out their rage on the peaceful population. Trying to justify the scorched earth tactics, which verges on the true genocide, the infuriated Colonel Garica, (?overreacting) in the vicinity of Guazapa, has stated with appalling cyncism that the population of the insurgent-controlled areas supports rebels' goals and, therefore, it cannot be regarded as a peaceful population.

From day to day it become clearer that the junta cannot exercise power without the support of the United States and by pro-U.S. regimes.

It has been learned that Honduran regular troops have entered the Salvadoran Department of Cabanas where they engaged in a battle with the insurgents.

The U.S. press is reporting on the so-called plan of action designed by the U.S. administration and aimed at two targets: maintaining the junta in power and undermining the Nicaraguan revolutionary process. The CIA will play an active role in the implementation of the plan, for which a $19 million fund has been earmarked.

The Central American situation became very tense in the wake of the threat of U.S. intervention in El Salvador. It is for this reason that the proposal submitted by Mexican President Jose Lopez Portillo, for the purpose of reaching a settlement to the critical Central American situation, has awakened so much interest and attention. Lopez Portillo said in Managua that military intervention in any Central American or Caribbean country would be a very serious historic mistake. Mexico, he remarked, is ready together with other countries to negotiate a peaceful settlement for the situation in the area.

The Mexican initiative has elicited a broad response in Latin America, drawing support from Cuba and Nicaragua.

The Salvadoran National Liberation Front has termed it very positive. According to press reports, Mexico's proposal has also drawn support from many European countries, while the United States has remained silent. Even more, the U.S. President threatened Cuba and Nicaragua when he spoke at the OAS headquarters, thus confirming that Washington has not given up its aggressive conduct against those who do not bend to the Yankee dictates.

As for Reagan's economic plan for Central America and the Caribbean -- it is a facade, as the New York TIMES has accurately put it, for its most dubious purpose: a substantial increase of military help to El Salvador.

MATERIALS ON AUCCTU CONGRESS ACTIVITIES

Video Coverage of Opening

LD162036 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 1455 GMT on 16 March carries a 65-minute video recording of the opening session of the 17th AUCCTU congress.

The camera shows Brezhnev, Chernenko, Gromyko, Ponomarev, Shalayev, Solomentsev, Kuznetsov, Tikhonov, Demichev, Andropov, Pelshe, Dolgikh, Kapitonov, Zimyanin, Rusakov and others taking their places in the Presidium while the television announcer lists the names as follows: Brezhnev, Andropov, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Pelshe, Tikhonov, Chernenko, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin and Rusakov.

While Shalayev makes the opening remarks the camera shows the following seating arrangement, from left to right: Gromyko, Grishin, Chernenko, Brezhnev, Shalayev, Tikhonov and Andropov in the front row; and Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kuznetsov, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kapitonov, Zimyanin, Rusakov, Georgadze, Pastukhov and others in the second row. The announcer says that 131 delegations from 123 countries are attending the congress and the camera provides pan shots of the foreign guests.

As the announcer says that Brezhnev is about to speak the audience in the hall rises to its feet and applauds. The camera does not show Brezhnev walking to the podium from which he delivers his speech.

While Brezhnev delivers his speech the camera alternates from medium shots of Brezhnev speaking to shots of the audience in the hall. The camera also shows shots of Andropov, Pelshe, Gorbachev, Georgadze, Pastukhov and others, while shots of Brezhnev from another angle show Gromyko, Grishin and Chernenko in the front row behind Brezhnev, and foreign guests in the following rows. When the camera cuts to frontal shots of Brezhnev speaking, Gromyko, Grishin, Chernenko, Shalayev, Tikhonov and Andropov can be seen in the front row behind Brezhnev, with Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Kuznetsov, Demichev, Dolgikh, Kapitonov, Zimyanin and Rusakov in the next row.

During his 57-minute speech, Brezhnev could be seen patting his brow on one occasion after having spoken for about 50 minutes. Throughout his delivery the camera frequently cut to shots of the audience, for several seconds at a time, while Brezhnev's voice could be heard speaking.

Report on Shalayev Speech

LD161652 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Today at the 17th Congress of the USSR's Trade Unions a report on the work of the AUCCTU and tasks of the USSR's trade unions in the light of decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress was delivered by Comrade Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman. He stressed that the clear and inspiring speech by Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, had made a profound impression on congress delegates. This speech and the greetings from the CPSU Central Committee to Soviet trade unions are fresh and clear evidence of the immense attention which our party and its Central Committee devote to trade union activities and to enhancing their role and importance in the country's life and in the political system of Soviet society.

The party invariably regards the trade unions as an influential social force, as its reliable bulwark in the masses and a mighty means for developing democracy and involving the working people in the construction of communism. In his speech at the congress today Leonid Ilich Brezhnev set the trade unions principled and specific tasks for a long time ahead. It provides a fresh stimulus for all trade union work and will be made the foundation of the activities of AUCCTU, every trade union central committee and every trade union organization. It is an invaluable aid for the trade unions and serves as a reliable guide in all matters.

On behalf of the delegates and all members of trade unions the AUCCTU chairman assured the CPSU Central Committee and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally that the Soviet trade unions will continue to firmly follow the party's line and to take an active part in the struggle to realize the noble communist ideals.

The AUCCTU review report further notes that the period since the previous trade union congress has been marked by great dynamism in the development of all spheres of the life of our society. Large-scale plans for economic construction were realized in the 10th 5-Year Plan. The country made substantial progress in the chief directions of creating the material-technical base of communism. The well-being of the Soviet people was enhanced. The material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life were strengthened. The economic and defense might of our motherland grew. Soviet trade unions did a great deal toward this. Now they are faced with new responsible tasks, primarily in the sphere of increasing efficiency of public-sector production. Guided by the decision of the 26th party congress, the trade unions direct their efforts first and foremost to the improvement of the socialist economy. The slogan "The Economy Must Be Economical," submitted at the 26th party congress, is the main one. In order to realize it, the AUCCTU review report stresses, the organization of socialist competition, which is one of the most important means for a trade union to influence the development of the economy, must be improved.

The AUCCTU chairman reported that in the period under review, the number of people involved in competition has increased to 108 million. It has gained truly population-wide scope and has come to embrace all spheres of life of society — production, management, science, domestic life and culture. Meanwhile, competition is acquiring qualitatively new features. Today it is directed toward achieving the best final national economic results and is being concentrated increasingly on the resolution of radical problems of production efficiency and quality of work. Many remarkable initiatives are constantly being born in the process of competition.

The AUCCTU review report notes the Muscovites and Leningraders who initiated competition for prefulfillment of personal and brigade plans; Siberian oil and gasfield workers, who came out with the initiative of achieving a level of daily extraction of 1 million tons of oil and 1 billion cubic meters of gas ahead of schedule; builders of light industry enterprises; and other detachments of workers. Competition has led to the fact that hundreds of thousands of front-ranking workers have completed personal tasks of the first quarter in time for the opening day of the 17th Congress of the USSR's Trade Unions.

Much attention in the AUCCTU review report was devoted to counterplans of labor collectives, competition between allied enterprises and development of other forms of labor emulation. In comtemporary conditions, the report notes further, the role of trade unions in the development of agriculture and other branches of the agro-industrial complex is being enhanced. Trade unions are called upon to seek specific ways toward raising the level of activity of all organizations and workers involved in production matters.

Much attention is devoted in the AUCCTU review report to subjects such as a thrifty attitude to public property, popularization of progressive experience, introduction of achievements of science and technology, reduction of manual labor in production, scientific-technological creativity of working people and the role of trade unions in production management.

Thus the plans for further improvement of the economy set new and complex tasks for the trade unions. The essence of them consists in concentrating the attention and efforts of labor collectives on the successful implementation of the 11th 5-Year Plan's plans on increasing the contribution of trade unions to raising production efficiency. This is what the trade unions and the party call for; this is what should be the heart of production-economic activities of the trade unions.

The AUCCTU review report devotes much space to the important task of the trade unions in concern for the individual, for his needs and requirements. Trade unions have taken an active part in the drafting and implementation of measures to enhance the well-being of the people. In accordance with decisions of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers and AUCCTU new pay rates and wages were introduced for more than 100 million workers and staff in the seventies. In the current 5-year plan the average monthly pay for workers and staff will rise by 14.5 percent, and the volume of social provision funds will increase by 23 percent.

As conditions are created and resources are accumulated it is planned to raise wages and salaries of workers and employees of, in the first instance, production industries. This has been started. Workers in the coal industry have already received considerable wage hikes. Specific time limits for the introduction of wages and salaries in regions and other industries will be established by annual plans.

The report stresses that wages must be more closely linked to the final labor results so that the personal contribution of every worker to the common cause should be reflected in wages as exactly as possible.

Raising the people's standard of living depends not only on the growth of monetary income but also on how the population's demands for goods and services are satisfied. In the 11th 5-Year Plan it is planned to achieve the accelerated growth of production of group B. The AUCCTU and local trade unions organs are working for an improvement in the manufacture, broadening of the range and improvement in the goods quality. However, it is necessary to be more insistent and show a greater adherence to principles in solving these tasks.

During the period under review trade unions have, together with economic organs, carried out major measures to ease and improve working conditions. The AUCCTU, soviets and committees of trade unions, however, have not been fully utilizing their rights and opportunities when solving these questions. The constant concern of our society for the working man, every inhabitant, is reflected on Soviet social insurance. During the 10th 5-Year Plan more than R203 billion was spent on social insurance and provision of pensions.

Well-known, too, are the successes of the Soviet health service. However, at the same time the organization of medical assistance requires improvement. The organization of treatment in sanatoria and rest and tourism spas is one of the important directions of the work of trade unions in the preservation and strengthening of the health of the working people. During the last 5-year period 44 million people were treated in sanatoria and prophylactic centers either free of charge or at low rates. Nearly 150 million people were in boarding houses, rest centers and tourist centers and every year 14 million children spend their school holidays in pioneer camps. All these opportunities could have been greater still if builders had fully utilized the funds appropriated for the further development of sanatoria and spa, tourist and health affairs.

The Communist party is constantly paying attention to the improvement of housing conditions of Soviet people. In the 10th 5-Year Plan every fifth inhabitant in the country improved his living conditions. During the current 5-Year Plan well-appointed apartments will be provided to no fewer than 50 million people. Nevertheless, problems with housing still remain serious, as is known. Trade union organizations must resolutely cut short any violations in the distribution of housing and resist any attempts to improve housing conditions without reason, to obtain residential floor space out of turn or more than justified [s izlishestvom].

In the daily trade union work it is necessary to pay more attention to the complex solution of problems in the life of working collectives on the basis of collective agreements and plans of social development.

The role of trade unions as schools of communism includes the task of educating people in communist consciousness and unbreakable ties with their labor for the benefit of society.

The AUCCTU report lists data on the participation of Soviet people in the movement for a communist attitude toward labor, the number of students in schools of communist labor and the further development of mentorship [nastavnichestvo].

After the 16th congress the ranks of Soviet trade unions increased by 18 million; now they amount to more than 130 million. As before, a leading part in trade unions belong to the working class. The reporting elections of the trade unions on the eve of the congress have vividly demonstrated the increased activity of the working people in public life. The reporting-electoral campaign helped to concretize the tasks of the trade unions and strengthen their participation in the solution of economic and social problems set by the 26th CPSU Congress.

The AUCCTU report points out that the 17th congress has to examine the question of introducing partial amendments and additions to the statute of the USSR trade unions. It is planned to hold an exchange of trade union membership cards after the congress.

Proceeding then to the international activities of Soviet trade unions, Comrade Shalayev stressed that they, together with our entire people, warmly approve and support the Leninist peace-loving policy of the CPSU. Soviet trade unions concentrate their main efforts in their international work on the struggle for the cohesion of all ranks of the workers' movement for peace, democracy and social progress and the activization of unified manifestations of working people in the defense of peace and against the arms race that is being whipped up by imperialism. The entire activity of USSR trade unions cannot be separated from the struggle for peace and for the security of peoples. By its entire content and essence it responds to the program of peace for the eighties elaborated by the CPSU.

Soviet trade unions maintain contact with trade unions in 145 socialist, liberated and capitalist countries. Friendly and truly fraternal are the relations with trade unions of the socialist community. Fully sharing and supporting in every way the Communist Party policy, under the wise leadership of its Leninist Central Committee, headed by Comrade Brezhnev, Soviet trade unions will continue unwaveringly along the road of building communism and will work unceasingly for the benefit of the people for the sake of their socialist fatherland's prosperity.

Further on Shalayev Speech

LD162040 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Comrade Shaleyev, chairman of the AUCCTU, delivered a report at the AUCCTU congress entitled "The Work of the AUCCTU and the Tasks of the USSR's Trade Unions in Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU congress," he said:

[Begin recording] Comrade delegates, esteemed foreign guests: The clear and inspiring speech by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, made a profound and indelible impression on all of us. [applause]

By its content it is spearheaded toward solving the fundamental tasks of economic and social development arising from the decisions of the 26th party congress. Each point and each idea in it is imbued with a fatherly concern for the good and the happiness of the Soviet people. The new peace initiatives put forward by Leonid Ilich, which express the good will of our people to preserve and consolidate peace on Earth, are of truly invaluable significance for the destiny of the whole of mankind.

The speech by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and the greetings message of the CPSU Central Committee to our congress are a new and vivid manifestation of the immense attention that our party and its Leninist Central Committee devote to the work of the trade unions and to enhancing their role and significance in the life of the country and in the political system of Soviet society.

The party invariably regards the trade unions as an influential social force, as its reliable bulwark among the masses and as a mighty means for developing democracy and involving the working people in the building of communism. The fundamental theoretical and practical questions of the work of the trade unions at the present stage have been profoundly analyzed in the documents of CPSU congresses, decisions of the party Central Committee and Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's works.

In his speech today Leonid Ilich set the trade unions principled and specific tasks for a long time ahead. It provides a fresh stimulus for all trade union work and will be made the foundation of the work of the AUCCTU, every trade union central committee and every trade union organization. This is of inestimable assistance to the trade unions and serves as a reliable guide for all people.

The Communist Party is constantly showing concern for extending the rights of the trade unions in order that they may carry out still more completely and in a better fashion their social functions which, under conditions of mature socialism, are being further developed and are being filled with new content. This has found its expression in the USSR Constitution, as well as in a number of pieces of legislation that have been adopted in recent years at the initiative of the CPSU Central Committee. As a result, the prestige of the Soviet trade unions has been enhanced even more and their opportunities and real contribution to solving political, economic and sociocultural questions have grown considerably.

The whole of our history and the whole contemporary Soviet experience is convincing acknowledgement of the fact that the party leadership is the source of the strength of the trade unions and their successful work. Our trade unions are inseparably linked with the party. They pursue no other objectives than those set by the Communist Party. They serve no other interests than those upheld by our common state of the people. [applause]

Dear Leonid Ilich, on behalf of the congress delegates and on behalf of all trade union members, we assure the party Central Committee, the Politburo and you personally that the Soviet trade unions will continue to follow firmly the line of the party and your instructions and wise counsel and actively participate in the struggle to carry out the noble communist ideals.

The Soviet people love you dearly, Leonid Ilich, as a great toiler, as a man of truly legendary destiny who has trod a glorious path from worker to the leader of our Leninist Communist Party and the great Soviet state. From all our hearts we wish you, Dear Leonid Ilich, good health, inexhaustible spirit and energy and new, great achievements in your multifaceted work for the benefit of our great homeland, the cause of peace and friendship between peoples and the joy and happiness of all working people in the name of the triumph of communism. [applause] [end recording]

Later in the AUCCTU review report the work of the Soviet trade unions over the past 5 years was analyzed and tasks for the coming years were determined. The rapporteur noted the great role of the trade unions in undertaking economic tasks, raising social production and developing socialist competition. The rapporteur devoted considerable time to the important tasks of the trade unions in their concern for the individual and his needs and requirements.

Trade unions have taken an active part in drafting and implementing measures to raise further the well-being of the people.

Turning next to the international activities of the Soviet trade unions, the AUCCTU chairman stressed that the trade unions, together with all the Soviet people, warmly approve and support the Leninist peace-loving policy of the CPSU. Soviet trade unions concentrate their main efforts in their international work on the struggle to unite all ranks of the workers' movement coming out for peace, democracy and social progress. By its content and essence, the work of the USSR trade unions responds to the peace program for the eighties which was elaborated by the CPSU.

In conclusion, Comrade Shalayev said the Soviet trade unions would continue to march without deviation along the road of communist construction and would work unceasingly for the benefit of the people in the name of the prosperity of our socialist fatherland.

TV Account of Shalayev Speech

LD170038 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 16 Mar 82

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Comrade Shalayev, chairman of the AUCCTU, delivered a report at the AUCCTU congress entitled "The Work of the AUCCTU and the Tasks of the USSR's Trade Unions in Light of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress." He said:

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The whole of our history and the whole contemporary Soviet experience is convincing acknowledgement of the fact that the party leadership is the source of the strength of the trade unions and their successful work. Our trade unions are inseparably linked with the party. They pursue no other objectives than those set by the Communist Party. They serve no other interests other than those upheld by our common state of the people. [applause]

Dear Leonid Ilich, on behalf of the congress delegates and on behalf of all trade union members, we assure the Party Central Committee, the Politburo and you personally that the Soviet trade unions will continue to follow firmly the line of the party and your instructions and wise counsel and actively participate in the struggle to carry out the noble communist ideals.

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Comrade delegates: Five years separate us from the 16th Trade Union Congress. This was a period marked by high dynamism in the development of all spheres of the life of our society. Large-scale plans for economic construction were realized in the 10th 5-Year Plan. The country made substantial progress in the main directions of creating the material-technical base of communism. The well-being of the Soviet people was enhanced. The material and spiritual foundations of the socialist way of life were strengthened. The economic and defense might of our motherland grew.

All Soviet people welcomed with a great upsurge and great enthusiasm the CPSU Central Committee decision on the 60th anniversary of the formation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. In honor of the glorious jubilee, labor collectives widely developed the patriotic movement: For the 60th anniversary of the USSR -- 60 shock weeks. The working people of all the republics, krays and oblasts are providing remarkable examples of shock labor and are doing everything for the successful fulfillment of the 1982 plan and the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole.

Our multinational motherland is advancing with giant steps. Six victorious decades in the life of the Soviet Union are a convincing demonstration of the triumph of the CPSU's Leninist nationalities policy and socialism's historic achievements. [end recording]

The trade unions, Comrade Shalayev continued, direct all their production, mass, organizational and educational work primarily toward the upsurge of the socialist economy and the successful implementation of the chief determining slogan advanced by the 26th party congress: The economy must be economical. This also influences the main requirements for the organization of socialist competition, which is one of the most important means for the trade unions to influence the development of the economy. In the past 5 years the number of people engaged in competition has increased to 108 million. It has gained truly nationwide scale. In the years of the 10th 5-Year Plan, stressed the rapporteur, a new step was made in the solution of social problems. The more mature our society becomes, he said, the more attention we can and should pay to the everyday needs of the working people -- to housing, food, services, health care and education -- everything that determines man's prosperity and spirit. The social program drawn up with the participation of the trade unions for the 11th 5-Year Plan includes a set of measures directed at improving working conditions, increasing real incomes and personal consumption and solving housing and food problems. In conclusion Comrade Shalayev said:

[Begin recording] Soviet trade unions are learning from the party, its Leninist Central Committee, and from Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to show untiring concern for the man of labor and to devote their entire and undivided effort toward serving our people. Whatever questions we concern ourselves with and whatever production, economic, social or mass cultural problems we tackle, all this is done in the final analysis in the name of the man of labor. We serve his interests when we work for an upsurge of the economy. We think of the man of labor when we help the party and the state to implement vitally important social and educational tasks. In promoting the strengthening of peace and friendship between peoples, we defend the supreme right of man -- the right to life. Fully sharing and supporting in every way the policy of our Communist Party under the wise leadership of its Leninist Central Committee headed by Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, Soviet trade unions will continue unswervingly to advance along the road of communist construction and will work unstintingly for the good of the people and in the name of the prosperity of our socialist fatherland. [applause] [end recording]

End of 16 Mar Session

LD161744 Moscow TASS in English 1734 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 16 Mar, TASS -- The 17th Congress of the USSR Trade Unions opened today in the Kremlin. The first day of the congress' work has been concluded.

A lengthy speech to the delegates of the congress was delivered by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev. His speech was broken many times by stormy, prolonged applause.

Chairman of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions Stepan Shalayev delivered a report of the Central Council of Soviet Trade Unions to the congress.

The debate on the report then opened. Representatives of the trade union organizations of Moscow, the Ukraine, Siberia, the Soviet Far East spoke today in the debate.

The congress was greeted by foreign guests -- General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions Ibrahim Zakaria, Chairman of the Central Council of the Bulgarian Trade Unions Petr Dyulgerov, General Secretary of the Hungarian Council of Trade Unions Sandor Gaspar.

The congress of the Soviet trade unions will continue its work tomorrow.

17 Mar Resumption

LD170708 Moscow TASS in English 0703 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar, TASS -- The 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions today continued its work at the Kremlin Palace of Congresses. Delegates are discussing the report of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) delivered yesterday by AUCCTU Chairman Stepan Shalayeve.

Brezhnev Receives WFTU Medal

LD171024 Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 17 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar, TASS -- Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has been presented the gold medal of the World Federation of Trade Unions. The Soviet leader was awarded this highest WFTU distinction by the decision of the World Trade Union Congress in Havana for his great contribution to the promotion of the interests of the working people.

Today, at a session of the 17th congress of the Soviet trade unions working for its second day in the Kremlin, Sandor Gaspar, WFTU chairman, and Ibrahim Zakaria, WFTU general secretary, presented Leonid Brezhnev the high trade union decoration.

Leonid Brezhnev said upon accepting it:

"I am deeply moved and thankful as I accept the gold medal of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

"It is a high decoration. I regard it primarily as recognition by the international trade union movement of the work that is being consistently carried out by our Communist Party and state in the name of world peace and the happiness of the working people.

"These two goals are inseparably connected with each other. Man cannot live and work calmly unless he is sure that his morrow will be peaceful.

"The problems of work usually do not transcend the boundaries of one state. Peace is a different matter. It is a common, international concern to preserve and strengthen it, and it is extremely important that such a powerful force of our time as the international working-class movement is active in the anti-war struggle.

"The organized working people together with all the peace forces can and must raise a strong barrier in the way of militarism and aggression. This was firmly stated at the 10th World Trade Union Congress. It demonstrated anew that the World Federation of Trade Unions is the true spokesman for the interests of the multimillion mass of the working people and a staunch champion of their vital rights and interests.

"The activities of the trade unions will always evoke respect in anyone with a working class background. My first occupation was steel-making, and I take pride in the fact that I attend the present congress as a delegate of the metalworkers' trade union. And I want to add that the school I went through in the ranks of the working class helps me a good deal in life.

"I wholeheartedly thank you again for the honorary decoration and for the heartfelt words said about me.

I assure you that I will continue to devote all my energy to the struggle for peace, for the cause of the working people."

Sandor Gaspar, WFTU chairman, said upon presenting the decoration to Leonid Brezhnev.

"The participants in the 10th congress representing the world trade union movement of the five continents know about the great and tireless efforts of the Soviet Union and the CPSU for the interests of the working people of the world, for the goals of the international working class, for the freedom of the peoples and for social progress, and think highly of their tireless struggle for the most vital and sacred right of people, the right to life and to the struggle for safeguarding peace," he said.

Addressing Leonid Brezhnev, Sandor Gaspar said: "The working people of the whole world attach exceptionally great importance to the new peace initiatives made by you in your speech yesterday."

"Dear Comrade Brezhnev," Sandor Gaspar said in conclusion, "Your indefatigable work as a leader and all your activities as the Soviet head of state for the good of the whole of mankind are well known all over the world. The decoration we are presenting you today on the instruction of the 10th World Trade Union Congress is recognition of these activities by the army of the working people organized into trade unions, by the international trade union movement.

"We wish you the best of health and fresh success in your work for the good of the Soviet people, the party and the state, for the good of the working people of the whole world."

Speech by WFTU's Zakaria

LD161856 Moscow TASS in English 1822 GMT 16 Mar 82

[Text] Moscow, 16 Mar, TASS -- "The most important task of the trade union movement now is to safeguard peace," WFTU Secretary General Ibrahim Zakaria said today at the 17th Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions. "This is precisely how the tasks of the trade unions were determined by the world congress that was held recently in Havana. The congress unanimously pointed to the growth of war danger because of the excalation of the arms race by imperialism, the reckless adventuristic policy of the present U.S. administration and its aggressive course in all aspects of international relations."

The plenary meetings and commissions of the congress were addressed by delegates elected by the working people of all continents and all social systems, the speaker said. All of them strongly condemned the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, which is constantly stepping up the arms race. From the viewpoint of the workers, this arms race not only threatens their lives but also deprives them of their means of subsistence. With the spiralling of the arms race, the deepening of the crisis of capitalism, the onslaught of transnational corporations, the life of workers and peoples in capitalist and developing countries is worsening. Never in history was there such a great number of unemployed as now.... Inflation is spiralling, the purchase power of the working people is eroded. People in developing countries are dying of hunger and malnutrition.

"Despite any complications in the international situation, the international trade union movement confirms the conclusion that huge growth of the anti-war movement, the resistance to the aggressive actions of imperialism, the emergence of a great number of non-aligned countries, the determined struggle of the working class in capitalist countries, undoubtedly, exert great impact on our activity," said the secretary general of the WFTU. "The tenth congress has determined our tasks for the eighties, the principles of work and the clear-cut line of actions of the trade unions in the years ahead and in future."

"We promise here that the WFTU will fulfill this mission entrusted to it by millions of the working people. Giving this promise, we are aware that we can count on firm support of the Soviet trade unions."

The Congress of the Soviet Trade Unions at which we are present is another confirmation of the fact that in the USSR not one state affair bearing on the interests of the working people is decided without the participation of the trade unions or without taking into consideration their viewpoint," Ibrahim Zakaria said.

No society other than socialist can create such conditions for the activity of the trade unions," Zakaria said. "Some of our colleagues in the international trade union movement do not regard a trade union as real if it is not in opposition. This is absurd."

"Many delegates at the tenth world congress in Havana said that the opposition of the trade unions in the capitalist society is inevitable," the speaker said; "but to be in opposition is not an end to itself. When the nature of the system is changing and it becomes socialist, when the working people are assuming power, trade unions must not remain in opposition for the sake of being in opposition, for this might boomerang on them, on trade union members. The trade unions canot afford to be indifferent to a socialist state. Trade unions are not mere spectators, they are full-fledged partners and, therefore, must take part in the creation of socialist society and managing the state."

"We were always saying and repeat again that the WFTU takes pride of the fact that trade unions of socialist countries are in its ranks", Ibrahim Zakaria said.

Address by Cuban Delegate

LD171306 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 17 Mar 82

["Remove the Threat of War" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 17 Mar (TASS) -- "We are living through a dramatic period. The adventurist and irresponsible policy of the present administration of the United States may lead the world to war with catastrophic results for all mankind. The danger of war is quite real and it is growing. It is the supreme duty of working people and trade unions in all parts of the world to avert this danger and, above all, to fight tirelessly for eradicating it," said Roberto Veiga, general secretary of the Trade Union Center of Working Peope of Cuba. He was speaking today at the 17th Congress of Soviet Trade Unions, now in progress here.

The ground is burning under the feet of exploiters and hangmen in Latin America and the Caribbean, the speaker went on. This is a legitimate reply of the peoples to constant violations of their sacred and vital rights, and not the result of a mythical Soviet-Cuban "conspiracy", as is alleged by the slanderous imperialist propaganda.

Plans are openly and shamelessly being made in Washington to suppress the revolutions in Nicaragua and Grenada, to drown in blood the heroic struggle of the peoples of El Salvador and Guatemala and to escalate hostile actions against Cuba, Roberto Veiga went on. To intimidate us the NATO forces are holding with aggressive purposes naval exercises in immediate proximity to the Cuban shores and announce new dangerous exercises in this area with the participation of thousands of people and hundreds of planes and warships. These exercises are to be concluded with the embarkation of Marines at Guantanamo, the Cuban territory which was seized by the USA. This will be an impudent rehearsal of an incursion into Cuba. The present American rulers seem to believe that their mission is to impose everywhere unimpeded the will of the most reactionary and bellicose circles of the United States.

The Cuban people are aware of this possible danger but they are quiet and firm. They are always on guard, they are always vigilant and are prepared with all their determination to make the aggressor pay a high price for any attempt to attack them.

We listened with great attention, the Cuban guest said, to the speech made yesterday by Leonid Brezhnev, Cuba's great friend. The new initiatives put forward by Leonid Brezhnev in the interests of disarmament and detente reaffirm the Soviet people's will to peace. Nowhere in the world is there a just cause that would not receive selfless and unlimited support from the Soviet Union.

The history of the Cuban revolution confirms this irrefutable truth...we shall always be grateful to the heroic people who after storming the Winter Palace and in the fire of battles of the Great Patriotic War were fighting for the noble ideals to which we, Cubans, will always be dedicated. We take pride in the close ties which bind the Soviet and Cuban people, our parties, our governments, our peoples, our workers and trade unions," the speaker said in conclusion.

NOVOYE VREMYA Editorial

PM161703 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 11, 12 Mar 82 p 1

[Editorial: "Working People's Forum"]

[Text] The regular, 17th, USSR Trade Unions Congress which opens in Moscow on 16 March is a forum of the Soviet land's most mass-based public organization. Its ranks include 130 million people -- virtually all working people. This fact of itself is convincing evidence of our society's democratic nature.

Of course, it is not only and not so much a case of the quantitative aspect as of the functions with which Soviet trade unions are invested. It is a case of their weight in the political, social and economic life of society and in the management of state and public affairs.

Whatever the opponents of socialism may say about our democracy, we have no grounds for avoiding serious talk about the place of the working people's organizations in the Soviet land or the nature of relationships between the party of communists, the state of the victorious proletariat and the trade unions. For over 60 years now these questions have been the subject of a keen ideological struggle between us and the apologists of monopoly capital, between us and those few people in the ranks of the workers movement who, ignoring a class-based approach, are in fact now playing up to the theses of bourgeois propaganda.

Our ideological opponents allege that cooperation between the Soviet trade unions and the ruling party and socialist state leads to their loss of independence and of their own individuality [litso]. This allegation is utterly unsound. It fails to consider, for instance, the nature of the socialist state of the working people and for the working people, the state from which they do not need to wrest particular social gains in the course of a struggle, as the Western countries' trade unions are obliged to do. Throughout its history Soviet power has not passed a single law in any way restricting the trade unions' activity.

Alongside and in conjunction with other public organizations the trade unions nominate candidates to the soviets of people's deputies at all levels and take part in the compilation and discussion of legislative acts. At enterprises there are over 70 managerial functions that the administration cannot perform without the trade unions' agreement. Not a single worker can be dismissed or reassigned without the trade union's agreement. Not a single worker can be dismissed or reassigned without the trade union's approval and it has the perogative to demand that a leader of any rank be recalled if he infringes on the workers' interests.

In resolving their dual task of concern for the working people's interests and the development of production, the Soviet trade unions have no grounds for conflicts with the state. They are both equally interested in eradicating formalism, bureaucratism and abuses -- in brief, everything delaying society's progress and making life difficult for people. And the contradictions which can arise and sometimes do arise in specific practice between individual trade union organs and representatives of the administration are resolved in a communist, Soviet manner that is to the benefit of the public cause and the working man.

In the West the CPSU's leadership of the Soviet trade unions' activity is frequently depicted as diktat. In reality this leadership is of an ideological and political nature. The party does not take the place of the trade unions, does not belittle their role or restrict their activity.

We are always mindful of Lenin's wise thought that "millions of people will never heed the parties' advice if this advice fails to coincide with what the experience of their own lives teaches them." To ensure that "the drive belt from the Communist Party to the masses -- the trade unions" -- operated correctly V.I. Lenin demanded that trade union workers be immersed in the workers' lives, know how to determine the masses' mood and the degree of their awareness and real requirements unerringly and, without a trace of phony idealization, and know how to win the masses' boundless trust by a comradely attitude toward it, by the solicitous satisfaction of its needs.

Today the masses -- millions and millions of urban and rural working people -- wholeheartedly thank Lenin's party and its Central Committee and L.I. Brezhnev personally for their tireless concern for the country's welfare and its might and authority. If you ask any Soviet person what above all has marked our party's path in recent years, he will say: This path has been marked by deeds helping to preserve peace. It is for this that we are prepared to work without sparing our efforts. An awareness of this profound international responsibility helps us to surmount the difficulties that sometimes arise in the economy and in daily life.

Inspired labor for the benefit of our motherland, an active struggle for peace and solidarity with our class brothers in all countries -- those are the watchwords under which our supreme trade union forum is opening in the present jubilee year of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

IZVESTIYA EDITORIAL ON UNITY OF NATIONALITIES

PM161047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Mar 82 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Leninist Friendship of the Peoples"]

[Text] Time rushes by these days. It seems only recently that we were beginning the new, the 11th, 5-year plan but already we are greeting the spring of its second year -- a special year, marked by many portentous events, the most vivid of which is the USSR's 60th anniversary.

In its glorious anniversary year, our motherland, the land of the soviets, stands before the whole world as a harmonious family of republics enjoying equal rights and building communism together. Soviet society's sociopolitical and ideological unity is monolithic. The Soviet people's cohesion around the Communist Party headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, loyal continuer of Lenin's great cause, is indestructible.

The CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 60th Anniversary of the USSR," found a fervent response in the hearts of Soviet people of all nationalities. Every Soviet person today feels a lofty sense of pride in our great motherland, a sense of involvement in its historic achievements and of unity with its entire multimillion-strong people.

An unbroken chain of tribal, racial and national conflicts, which plunged countries and peoples into an abyss of calamities and suffering and stained whole continents with blood, extends through mankind's entire history from gray antiquity to our day. For thousands of years people sought a way out of this situation but ran into a blank wall. This wall is the domination of exploiters, which engenders and maintains national oppression. Our country's working people were the first to set the world an example of how the nationalities question should be solved.

The USSR's birth was the result of the Great October Socialist Revolution's victory and the Bolshevik party's titanic activity and was the living embodiment of the ideas of its creator and leader, V.I. Lenin, and the principles of the nationalities policy formulated by him. "We want a VOLUNTARY [word printed in all capitals] union of nations, the kind of union," Vladimir Ilich stressed, "which would prevent any coercion of one nation by another, the kind of union which would be based on total trust, a clear awareness of fraternal unity and absolutely voluntary accord."

Just such a union was created 60 years ago by the will of the fraternal Soviet republics' working people. History knows no state, the CPSU Central Committee resolution notes, that has done so much in such a very short time for the comprehensive development of the nations and ethnic groups as has the USSR -- the socialist fatherland of all our peoples. Their unity was tempered and gained strength during industrialization, the collectivization of agriculture and the cultural revolution and in the struggle to build socialism. This unity was revealed with particular force in the grim years of the Great Patriotic War when the fraternal peoples rose shoulder to shoulder in defense of the motherland, routed the enemy and saved the world from fascist enslavement. The postwar regeneration of the economy was an unforgettable nationwide feat.

Cohesion within a single union has multiplied the strength of all the peoples of the land of the soviets and has greatly accelerated their socioeconomic development. The peoples of former national backwaters, hitherto doomed to eternal backwardness, have marched confidently toward socialism in single formation with the working people of all nations, bypassing the capitalist stage of development, and have scaled the heights of social progress. The very concept of "national backwaters" has now gone out of our life. In the joint struggle for a new just world a great fraternity of working people and a sense of being a united family have emerged and a historic new community of people -- the Soviet people -- has taken shape.

The USSR's achievements in the 60 years of its existence are tremendous. National income has grown many times over during that period. The share of the land of the soviets in world industrial production has risen from 1 percent in 1922 to 20 percent at present. The Soviet Union is now a powerful industrial state with a highly mechanized agriculture and an advanced science and culture. The economies of all the union republics are developing dynamically within the unified national economic complex, which has become the material basis of the fraternal friendship of the USSR's peoples.

Since the time of Avkhshstroy, Kuznetskstroy, the construction of the Turkestan-Siberian Railroad and Magnitka, participation by multinational collectives in creating major economic projects has become an important symbol of our life. These days this remarkable social and sociopolitical phenonenon has been further developed. International production and scientific and creative collectives have emerged and are at work everywhere. It can be said with complete justification that such construction projects of the 11th 5-Year Plan as the Baykal-Amur Railroad, Atommash, the Rogunskaya GES, the laying of major oil and gas pipelines and Non-Chernozem Zone projects are not just the repositories of creation familiar to everyone but are also repositories of friendship. Representatives of dozens of the USSR's nations and ethnic groups are working here together, hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder.

The current 5-year plan, whose horizons were clearly defined by the 26th party congress, is opening up new opportunities for the further rapprochement of the peoples of the land of the soviets. The improvement of the unified national economic complex, the transfer of the economy to the path of intensive development, the unfolding of scientific and technical progress, the formulation and implementon of the food program and the rational siting of productive forces have all become a vital concern of all the fraternal republics' working people.

Responding wholeheartedly to the CPSU Central Committee resolution, Soviet people of various nationalities see it as their duty to continue to strengthen still more the indestructible unity and to reverently cherish and augment the material and spiritual wealth of the great motherland -- the USSR. Embarking on a labor vigil of friendship and launching socialist competition for efficiency and quality of work, they are united in their desire to devote their energy, experience and knowledge to the socialist fatherland's prosperity. The workers of all republics are sparing no efforts to achieve new successes in the cause of building communism and to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the creative plans outlined by the 26th CPSU Congress.

SHEVARDNADZE REPORTS ON GEORGIAN ECONOMY

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[Excerpts] It has already become traditional in the Georgian SSR, when beginning a new fiscal year, to analyze thoroughly the results of the previous year, the social changes that have occurred and the results of the efforts expended by the party and soviet agencies in mobilizing the workers to fulfill the plans and socialist pledges. Such a thorough analytical consideration of our republic's socioeconomic development at the start of the 5-year plan was made on 16 January at a joint session of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia and the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers.

Particular significance and scope was given to the session by the fact that it was an open door session: more than 300 secretaries of party oblast, city and rayon committees; chairmen of oblispolkoms and of city and rayon soviets of people's deputies; managers of ministries and departments; and representatives of a number of associations, enterprises, institutions and organizations in the republic were invited. That same circumstance determined the meaningful content of the questions discussed, the concrete nature of the statements of praise and criticism and the lively reaction of the audience to the essence of the questions that were posed.

The formulation of the points on the agenda -- "Results of Fulfilling the State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the Georgian SSR in 1981 and the Urgent Task of Implementing the Planned Assignments for the 1st Quarter and for the 2nd Year of the 11th 5-Year Plan and for 1982" -- determined the ardent propriety interest of the participants in the session and the high intensity of the discussion.

Those who participated in discussing the reports of the Georgian SSR Gosplan and Central Statistics Administration on the results of fulfilling the 1981 plan included Chairman of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers Z. A. Pataridze; Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia G. A. Andronikashvili; Head of the Department of Planning and Financial Agencies of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia L. Ya. Khaburzaniya; Chairman of the Georgian SSR Gossnab A. I. Buadze; First Deputy Chairman of the Georgian SSR Gosplan N. A. Medzmariashvili; Manager of the Georgian Republic Office of the USSR Gosbank V. A. Pateishvili; Director of the Plant imeni Dimitrov P. Sh. Tordiya; Manager of Trust No. 8, Georgian SSR Ministry of Construction, D. T. Razmadze; Chief of Gruzglavmontazhspetsstroy G. G. Gamkrelidze; Chairman of the Georgian SSR State Committee for Gasification B. F. Lobzhanidze; Georgian SSR Minister of Timber and Wood Processing Industry T. Ya. Uchaneishvili; First Secretary of Tbilisi Gorkom T. N. Menteshashvili; and Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia G. V. Kolbin.

The joint session accepted the socialist pledges of the workers of the Georgian SSR for the 11th 5-Year Plan and for 1982.

The results of the joint session were summed up by Candidate Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia E. A. Shevardnadze.

Glorious Landmark on the Path to Our Achievements

Summing up the results of the work of the joint session of the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia and the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Council of Ministers, Candidate Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia E. A. Shevardnadze noted:

Today, we, in essence, are the first at this official level to sum up the basic results of our work during the past year -- the 1st year of the 11th 5-Year Plan, a 5-year plan that, in the words of L. I. Brezhnev, must become -- and will become -- a glorious landmark on the path to the historic achievements of the Soviet nation.

We are also approving the socialist pledges of the republic for 1982 and for the entire 5-year plan.

It must be said that both of these factors are closely linked, closely intertwined with one another, since the results of our republic's economic and social development in 1981 have exerted the most direct influence on our socialist pledges and have determined the main sectors in which we must concentrate our basic efforts, the directions along which we must direct the energy and creative initiative of the broad masses of the workers.

A detailed economic evaluation of last year's results was provided in the speech by Comrade Z. A. Pataridze. A thoroughgoing analysis of the state of affairs in various branches of our economy was given by Comrades G. V. Kolbin, G. A. Andronikashvili, T. N. Menteshashvili and others.

Thanks to the selfless efforts of our workers, the annual plan for the production of industrial output, as already mentioned, was fulfilled 101.5 percent. The volume of industrial production, compared with last year, increased 5.1 percent compared with the 4.9 percent according to plan and 5 percent for socialist pledges. L. I. Brezhnev, speaking at a solemn session in Tbilisi, called our start in the 11th 5-Year Plan successful. Now we can proudly add that the finish of its first year proved to be no less successful. The country received in above the plan industrial output valued at a total of more than R134 million.

The plan and pledge for increased labor productivity were overfulfilled. As a result of that factor, 76 percent of the total increase in industrial production was achieved; this is 5 points higher than the figure stipulated by the plan.

The share of articles with improved quality reached almost 40 percent in the overall volume of certified output. With regard to that indicator, our republic currently is fourth in the country.

Thus, in 1981 our republic, as it had previously, consistently carried out the party's course aimed at increasing the effectiveness of social production and improving the quality of work in all spheres.

The rural workers faced difficult tests. Anyone who saw the steadfast manner in which our tea growers fought for a record-breaking harvest, overcoming the very serious lag in the harvesting of tea leaves, or who observed the brave manner in which our valiant vine growers saved not only the harvest but also the vineyards, cannot underestimate the victory that they won last year in agriculture.

The rural workers as a whole are coping with the three basic trends in the development of agricultural production that were defined by the 26th Congress of the Communist Party of Georgia. You remember those trends: exceeding the records set in 1980, guaranteeing the first-priority development of those branches with nationwide importance and, without inflicting any damage on them, increasing the production of products having importance for improving the supply of foodstuffs to the public.

Judging by the preliminary data provided by the Central Statistical Administration, gross output in agriculture increased 4 percent compared with 1980 and 10 percent compared with the average annual indicators of the 10th 5-Year Plan. Those are rather good indicators. But what is especially gratifying is that the production of products of animal husbandry increased 6 percent compared with 1980.

That goal was set for our party organization for the first time in the well-known decision of the CPSU Central Committee that dealt with Tbilisi Gorkom. Since then, that goal has served us as a kind of beacon, the chief orientation marker in our work, in all our party-organizational, party-political and economic activities. In less than a month we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of our persistent labor in fulfilling that decree, and it is already obvious that much has been done by us during those 10 years.

For example, in 1970, that is, at the beginning of the 9th 5-Year Plan, each inhabitant of the republic had 27 percent less national income than the average for the country; the indicator of gross output of industry was lagging behind the average-union indicator by 34 percent; gross output of agriculture, by almost 36 percent; and retail commodity turnover, by 23 percent. But by 1980 that gap was reduced, for example for national income, to 8 percent.

As you can see, the results, if one can put it this way, are real, completely tangible results. But something else is also evident -- the gap continues to be a substantial one, and it can be overcome only by retaining the high rates of social and economic development in the republic. It is precisely those goals that were set in the recently approved State Plan for Economic and Social Development of the Georgian SSR in 1981-1985 and the socialist pledges of our workers for 1982 and for the 11th 5-Year Plan as a whole, which were discussed today.

The plan and pledges provide for a maximum reduction in, and for certain parameters the complete elimination of, the republic's lag behind the average nationwide level. However, one still sees a substantial gap between the republic's indicator and the average nationwide indicator for the level of industrial development. This dictates to us the necessity of developing and carrying out in a time-responsive manner a number of major comprehensive measures for developing the republic's industry. We view as a beneficial step in this direction the development of basic concepts for the further industrialization of the Georgian SSR. In a few days we in the Central Committee will be discussing the recommendations of the Georgian SSR Gosplan to that effect. This is an important measure.

Recently, at a plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, we stated that we would consider the socialist competition as one of the important levers for achieving the average nationwide level in various branches of the republic's national economy. It is precisely the achievement of that strategic goal that acts as a beacon in the socialist pledges of the Georgian SSR that we will be adopting today.

In the Basic Directions in the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1981-1985 and for the period until 1990, the increase in the volume of industrial production for our republic was defined at the level of 31-33 percent. When formalizing our socialist pledges for the 5-year plan, we decided to guarantee hitting the upper limit of that assignment, that is, to guarantee an increase of 33 percent.

Increasing the volume of industrial production by 33 percent means producing in 1985 commercial output vaued at R11.63 billion, 175 million more than stipulated by the 5-year plan. For the 5-year period as a whole, the volume of output above the plan is supposed to be R550 million.

Are we up to this? I think that, without a doubt, we can do it! We have convincing arguments for this kind of confidence, because during the past year, as we have already said, the republic produced industrial output valued at more than R134 million above plan instead of the 85 million that was stipulated by the pledges.

If one considers that the summing up of the results of fulfillment of the socialist pledges for the 5-year plan will be done in a cumulative total, for us, as has been indicated by computations, the cumulative rate of growth of industrial production with respect to 1980 must be 110.2 percent in 1982, 116.4 percent in 1983, 124 percent in 1984 and 133 percent in 1985.

In 1982 we are accepting pledges, with a planned annual rate of increase of 4.8 percent, to guarantee that indicator at the level of 5 percent. Judged on the basis of results over the 2 years, that will give us a rate of 110.4 percent, .2 points higher than required by Gosplan computations. To carry out realistically what has been planned, it is necessary to produce above-plan output valued R90-100 million, a completely feasible task.

We feel that it is precisely as a result of the socialist pledges that one can successfully compensate for those discrepancies that occur in our planning and can strive consistently to hit the upper goals in socioeconomic development that were stated in the decision of the 26th CPSU Congress. That is why it must be emphasized that we will consider the fulfillment or nonfulfillment of socialist pledges as one of the chief criteria when evaluating the labor contribution made by individual enterprises, ministries and departments, cities and rayons.

In the work that has to be done, our chief concern, our chief problems must be, first, the changeover to the new evaluation criteria and indicators in industry and construction and, second, the introduction of a new scheme for administering the republic's agroindustrial complex.

The reorganization of the economy in conformity with the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers, "Improving the Planning and Intesifying the Effect of the Economic Mechanism for Increasing the Effectiveness of Production and the Quality of Work," is a complicated and multifaceted process. It requires the maximum exertion of effort, the use of our total experience and knowledge and the well-organized, coordinated actions of the planning, financial and credit institutions; the branch ministries, departments, associations and enterprises; the party, soviet, economic, trade union and Komsomol agencies; and the scientific institutions.

During the time that has elapsed since the adoption of that decree, the republic, on the whole, has done noticeable work in introducing the new evaluation criteria and indicators. At the present time, approximately 220 enterprises and associations in industry are employing the indicator of the normative net output. Their share is more than 48 percent of the republic's total industrial output and approximately 30 percent of the personnel in industrial production.

On the whole, the steps that have been taken have had a favorable effect on the activities of those enterprises and associations, as well as of the construction and transportation organizations. When one carries out a more detailed examination, however, one comes to the conclusion that we have no justification for complacency. The work to be carried out by the ministries and departments, by the managers of the associations and enterprises, as well as by our party committees -- the oblast, city and rayon committees -- and by the corresponding soviet and trade union agencies, is still far from the level that is required today to improve the economic mechanism.

So-called base enterprises are currently in existence in practically all cities and rayons. However, far from all party and soviet managers are working actively with them. Evidently, this is explained primarily by the situation that a number of base enterprises have not only failed to improve but have even worsened their economic indicators following the changeover to the evaluation of production activity according to the normative net output.

Judge for yourselves. On the whole the enterprises that compute the volume of production according to the normative net output fulfilled the annual plan for that indicator by 100.9 percent. At the same time, for the indicator of commercial output, their level of plan fulfillment was much higher -- 102.5 percent. The plan for labor productivity was implemented by 101 and 102.6 percent, respectively. Fifty-two enterprises failed to cope with the plan fulfillment with regard to the indicator of the normative net output, but only five with regard to the commercial output.

This confirms that our concern was completely justified and that the Georgian SSR Gosplan, jointly with the managers of the appropriate ministries, associations and enterprises, should carry out a thorough analysis of the reasons for the unsatisfactory work of the collectives employing the indicator of the normative net output and other evaluation criteria that are linked with it.

This is very important if one considers that during the current year more than 200 additional enterprises in the republic are changing over to the new management conditions. As was shown by a conference on this question held recently at our Central Committee, many managers of economic agencies, enterprises and associations have not yet completely analyzed the essence of the matter, have not yet completely assimilated the entire normative material and do not have any experience in applying the new system.

This is the source of all our basic shortcomings. First of all, they are the half-way policy, the incompleteness of the very introduction of the new criteria. With few exceptions, our enterprises, other than the indicator proper of normative net output, have not, essentially speaking, tested or employed any other new parameters. Such methods of cost-accounting [khozraschet] activity as the planning and distribution of labor expenditures and financial resources on the basis of stable long-term norm indices have not been introduced. Many enterprises do not yet have at their disposal any progressive technical-economic norms or norm indices or other necessary planning-computing or financial-economic documents.

Among the total set of measures for improving the economic mechanism, a special place is occupied by the development and introduction of general schemes for the administration of various branches. Our ministries and branches are manifesting completely incomprehensible inertia. We proposed completing the work in that direction last year, but as of this moment, other than Georgian SSR Ministry of Construction, in whose recommendations there is also much that is debatable, no one has developed such a scheme.

We understand the entire complexity of this task, but we also do not forget that this requirement was advanced at the 26th CPSU Congress. And apparently it is also necessary for the appropriate managers to remember this. The Georgia SSR Council of Ministers, in our opinion, should take more energetic steps to accelerate the development of the general schemes for administration so that the best adjustments can be made in our economic mechanism for resolving the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan.

If one isolates here the chief trends in the work, they are the following:

Fundamentally improving the structure and mechanism of administering the national economy;

Improving and reducing the costs of the administrative apparatus;

More effectively combining the branch and territorial principles of running the economy;

Further improving the specialization and concentration of production;

And, on that basis, preparing the branch ministries and departments for the changeover to cost-accounting [khozraschet] conditions.

At this point it is probably necessary to speak frankly about the fact that the resolution of a large number of questions of improving the economic mechanism is beyond the competency of our ministries, departments and the Georgian SSR Gosplan and Council of Ministers. Moreover, many union ministries and departments are raising the question to the effect that the enterprises that are under their subordination have not been rushing to make decisions concerning the changeover to the new system.

The experience of a number of industrial and construction enterprises and organizations convincingly indicates that the changeover to the new management conditions without the corresponding preparation and without elimination of the existing shortcomings is actually fraught with undesirable consequences. Therefore, it is probably true that one should not hurry, but one also should not artificially drag out the changeover. What is needed here is a strictly differentiated approach, and we must clearly differentiate where the prerequisites for the introduction of the new indicators have not yet objectively matured for us and where the managers are manifesting inactivity and inertia, prefering simply to work by the old methods.

In this sense, critical tasks also confront the scientific-research institutes, the construction-planning organizations and design institutions, which, as is known, have already changed over to the new methods of planning and management.

It is also necessary to develop a republic-level diagramed schedule for reports to be submitted by managers at various levels concerning the work to be carried out in that plan, so as to be constantly aware of the situation and to be able to exert an influence on the course of reorganization of the economic mechanism for each branch, each organization. I assume that we should give the responsibility for this job to the appropriate departments of the Central Committee and the Council of Ministers, also giving them responsibility for monitoring the implementation of all measures.

Another, no less important problem for our party organization is the improvement of the management of the agroindustrial complex, the guaranteeing of its accelerated, balanced development. It is precisely this, first of all, that assures the resolution of the food supply problem, which L. I. Brezhnev called the central problem of the entire 5-year plan both in the economic sense and in the political sense.

In our republic, as is well known, experiments have been underway for many years to improve the administration of the branches of the agroindustrial complex at the rayon level. These experiments were begun in Abashskiy Rayon and then continued in Makharadzevskiy Rayon and certain others. As you probably remember, as long ago as the ninth (1978) plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, such a form of administration as rayon agroindustrial associations was evaluated as the most effective and proper one.

However, we did not rush to switch all the rayons in the republic to it. We approached that work not as a routine campaign but from profoundly scientific positions. All the results obtained were attentively analyzed annually, monthly. We systematically reported about them to the superior agencies, including the party's Central Committee, and informed our activists. And now, when L.I. Brezhnev, during his trip to Tbilisi, at jubilee festivities, approved in principle those experiments and called them interesting, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia began to prepare methods for converting the entire republic to the new form of administering the agroindustrial complex. In late December, at the Politburo of the Central Committee, we adopted a special decree on this question.

In the decree it is emphasized that, as has been demonstrated by the experience of Abashskiy, Makharadzevskiy, and certain other rayons, the raykoms and rayispolkoms, relying on the rayon agricultural production associations, can, with a large amount of success, plan and resolve the major long-term tasks of economic and social development in territorial and branch aspects.

At present it is very important for all of us, including the co-workers in the apparatus of the Central Committee, all of the departments of the Central Committee, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, the Council of Ministers, the ministries and departments, party oblast, city and rayon committees, the rayon executive committees and, definitely, the agricultural production associations themselves, to have a thorough awareness of the importance of this measure. No one should think that we are dealing with a simple replacement of the name of the rayon agricultural administrations. It is not even simply an improvement in the management of the branches of the agroindustrial complex. I must note that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia approaches this measure as a completely new stage in improving the forms and methods of administering not only the branches that are included in the agroindustrial complex but also the entire economy and, if you will, the party and soviet agencies.

We are firmly convinced that in the rayon the branches of the agroindustrial complex should be managed by the rayon agricultural production associations.

For this purpose they are given a solid apparatus with highly paid positions, and this also, as you yourselves realize, is a matter of no small importance. They are granted a large amount of independence, and, consequently, they are obliged to answer more strictly for the state of affairs in all the branches that are included in the agroindustrial complex and in most instances, essentially speaking, for the rayon's entire economic activity.

The chief task currently consists in assuring that, within the shortest period of time, those associations are staffed with the most competent, most tested, most professionally efficient specialists, experienced organizers and authoritative managers. From the very beginning we set the task of achieving a situation in which the people who came here to work were knowledgeable people with good on-the-job qualities. The Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia has already considered 30 nominations for positions as chairmen of agricultural production associations -- first deputy chairmen of rayispolkoms and has sent them to work in the rayons. They include instructors from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia, raykom secretaries, rayispolkom chairmen and deputy chairmen and ministry workers, including chiefs of administrations and associations — in a word, people who in previous assignments have shown themselves to be good organizers and conscientious workers.

This, of course, does not take from us the responsibility for their first steps, for their preparation for work under qualitatively new conditions. It is no accident that the Central Committee organized for the association chairmen a special seminar where, in addition to receiving theoretical knowledge, they receive the answers to many practical questions they will undoubtedly confront. Incidentally, one cannot, of course, limit oneself simply to seminars. It is the duty of all republic, oblast and rayon agencies, and of all the ministries, to find their own place in carrying out the measures that have been adopted.

In this regard, we require the Council of Ministers and Comrade O. G. Vardzelashvili personally, Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia approved as chairman of the republic-level Coordination Council for Administration of the Branches of the Agroindustrial Complex, to make the most rapid determination concerning the questions of forming the council and its working apparatus and to engage seriously in the development of the statute governing the rayon associations and the coordination council. In a word, there is no time to be lost. It is necessary, with all our means and efforts, to accelerate the resolution of the problems linked with the organization and formation of the new branches of administration.

I think that all of the department heads, their deputies and members of the Politburo of the Central Committee should engage constantly in these questions, because this is problem No 1 in the reorganization of the mechanism of controlling the agroindustrial complex. In addition, this is a matter that, as we have already said, is a completely new and complicated one, and, consequently, there will inevitably arise difficulties and moot points in the questions of coordination, partnership, the formation of centralized funds, economic and legal interrelationships and so forth. They must all be resolved in a timely and calm manner but, most importantly, in the optimal manner.

In carrying out this work, we must be aware that the formation of agencies to administer the agroindustrial complex, the development and implementation of the food supply program, represent the concrete embodiment of the consistent course that our party has taken to steadily raise the standard of living of Soviet citizens.

At the same time, I would like to warn the managers of ministries and departments, of rayons and cities, that, when engaging in the improvement of the administration of the agroindustrial complex, they should not at the same time, not even for 1 minute, lose sight of questions concerning a timely response; they must constantly assure a high level of wintering of livestock and prepare for spring agricultural operations. Just like last year, we must be ready for any complications.

Unfortunately, not everyone has become aware of this. The unfavorable weather conditions apparently caught individual managers unawares. It was found that in a few places there was not enough straw, combined fodder and so on. I do not know what certain comrades had been thinking of. Did they really hope that there just wouldn't be any winter at all in Georgia? But that is not very serious. Quite recently everyone reported to the Central Committee and to the republic government that preparations for the present wintering are better than ever. And now certain comrades apparently want to justify their sins by citing the bad weather. They will have to be reminded of the idea expressed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev at the November plenum of the Central Committee, to the effect that people and their labor should be evaluated with a consideration of what they strive for, either in good weather or in bad weather, and how dependable and stable the results of their labor are.

A year that was not one of the easy ones in this respect was 1981. A number of objective factors of a domestic and a foreign, international nature, of course, had a detrimental effect on providing our enterprises and economic organizations with material resources -- fuel and raw and other materials. Last year our enterprises underreceived from suppliers more than 30,000 tons of gasoline, more than 20,000 cubic meters of wood, approximately 6,000 tons of metal and a large amount of other very important types of raw and other materials.

As you know, one cannot predict any sharp improvement in the future. And for that reason, we can achieve the more efficient use of the available resources, the carrying out of stringent economy measures. Our losses of petroleum products, for example, are practically three times higher than the average for the country. We are still unable to bring down to the average nationwide level the amount of uncompleted construction. All this indicates that we have a large number of reserves.

Today we must more actively direct the creative initiative of the workers for their use. Socialist pledges must be oriented primarily at the attainment of high qualitative, rather than quantitative, indicators, at the complete economizing of material-technical, financial and other types of resources. And it is necessary to provide all kinds of incentives for the labor performed by those who are working economically.

At the November plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Georgia we posed the task of striving to increase the volume of production without increasing the consumption of resources. And it is necessary for us to orient the party, soviet and economic agencies and, of course, our trade unions and our Komsomol and other public organizations to the solution of that task.

On the other hand, work that requires greater precision is that which is carried out directly in the sphere of material-technical support. As you know, we have a special working group that addresses these problems. That group has done quite a bit, and we are well aware of what a complicated but also honorable task this is. Nevertheless, it must be said that the activities of that working group do not yet meet all the requirements. Apparently the emphasis here should be not on the distribution of material-technical resources but primarily on the overcoming of the difficulties in material-technical supply.

But there are also examples of poor effectiveness in unifying the activities of all organizations. For example, I fully share the opinion of Comrade G. V. Kolbin that we should analyze very attentively and seriously at the Politburo of the Central Committee the situation that developed late last year at the Kutaisi automobile plant. Why did the situation turn out to be so critical? Who bears personal responsibility for it -- the director, the Glavsnab workers or somebody else? And, finally, it is necessary to determine the degree of responsibility borne by everyone separately.

The questions of material-technical supply should be resolved not when they have become extremely acute but by constantly exerting an influence on the state of affairs and by forecasting any possible complications.

I would especially like to emphasize that today the questions of material-technical supply, of guaranteeing the stable operation of enterprises, are becoming the decisive ones, since, practically speaking, all our other reserves have been exhausted.

How did we previously guarantee high rates in industry? By relying on the processing branches; so let us speak candidly about that. And that is how it is now -- we processed 80,000 tons of citrus fruit, and they compensate us for the lag in metallurgy, machine-building and other branches, primarily at enterprises that are of nationwide subordination.

Practically speaking, in the future we will have no more opportunities to do this. As you know, tea will not yield any tangible increase within the near future. Nor are there any immediate plans for a major leap forward in the wine industry. We intend to put our emphasis here basically on improving the qualitative indicators.

The conclusion is obvious: Now, when the mistakes and miscalculations of some enterprises can no longer be easily covered up by the successes of others, it is important for every branch, every association, every enterprise to cope with its own assignments, guaranteeing the consistent growth of the most important indicators. Cost-accounting principles must become the basic ones when evaluating the work performed by all of the enterprises and associations.

We are convinced that the workers of Soviet Georgia will complete 1982 with distinction and will keep their promises to the Communist Party and the CPSU Central Committee!